

(See page 26 for more feline photos). Weekly audited distribution (52 weeks) to 31/12/09 - 43,445 (GEM Series). Audited by Grinter Johnson Ltd. Chartered Accountan

Bridgend & Porthcawl





Your ORIGINAL priceless weekly newspaper'

The area's longest serving Community Newspaper

Established 1983

www.bridgend-today.co.uk www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2010

FIRE ENGINES RUSH

Blaze guts the old cinema at Maesteg

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

FLAMES shot into but the wind took it the air and clouds away in the opposite the air and clouds of smoke shrouded part of Maesteg town centre on Monday night as firefighters from all over south Wales tackled a major blaze.

Six fire engines, including a water bowser and the hydraulic platform, were dispatched to Commercial Street at about 7pm when fire was discovered in the former New Theatre cinema, which has a frontage onto the

town's main street.

The building has also been used as a bingo hall and amuse-ment arcade but in more recent years, has been the Loadsmore discount shop, selling furniture and household goods.

building stretches behind a number of shops in Talbot Street and one of those nearest is Go Bananas, which is run by Huw Jones. He said that he came

to town as the fire was ongoing but thankful-ly, his own premises

direction to our shops in Talbot Street," he

"It is a miracle that none of the adjoining premises were dam-aged in the blaze. The firefighters did a fantastic job in protecting our properties."

The roof of the building has been com-

pletely destroyed and flames shooting from the rafters could be seen from many parts of the valley.

Crowds of people

gathered in the town centre to watch the fire although police had cordoned off a wide area around the build-ing for safety reasons.

Traffic was also barred from the town centre as police sealed

Officers were on duty at all the entrances into the town centre and diverted traffic around the edge.

Fire fighters were still on standby at the site on Tuesday morning, making sure that the fire was completely extinguished.

There has been talk ly, his own premises were unaffected.
"The smoke was billowing out of the roof chain.

Man found dead in Brynmenyn

SOUTH Wales Police are investigating the sudden death of a 51-year-old man after officers attended an incident at Chilcott Ävenue at Brynmenyn Industrial Estate at approximately 10.45am on Friday,

The death is not currently being treated as suspicious, and a file is being prepared for H M Coroner

Elfsteddfod takes a bite out of the Big Apple – and chews up world record!



The Elves were out in force recently... to find out where and why, turn to page 5.

Boundary Commission plans for shake-up are put on hold

of borough councillors in Bridgend and shake up the for the elections. Mr Sergeant ward boundaries have been put on hold.

New Theatre as a

to inspect the damage.

of the fire was "accidental and electrical."

Fire

spokeswoman

pub.

Service

potential

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales published its draft proposals for the area in the autumn and invited comments and representations by November 5.

The commission was then expected to produce its final proposals, which would have gone to the Welsh Assembly Government for approval by June. The aim was to bring in the changes in time for the next council elections

But a decision has been taken by Local Government Minister Carl Sergeant to suspend the whole process of reviewing these boundaries throughout Wales.

Instead, the Commission itself will be reviewed by WAG, because of its failure to meet the deadline of June 2011 to review all councils in Wales, and also for other failings.
In a statement, Mr Sergeant

said that the Commission has completed electoral reviews of seven councils so far out of 22. But directions from WAG

made it clear that all reviews were to be completed by next June, because of the need to change electoral registers in time

PLANS to cut the number by JAYNE ISAAC

went on: "Despite allocating adequate resources to complete the reviews within the timescales specified, the commission has fallen considerably behind schedule. I have over the past year re-iterated to the commission the importance of delivering to these timescales. However, it has now become clear that the commission will be unable to meet this date in respect of a number of councils." Mr Sergeant said that in con-

sidering the reports already completed, he had concerns about their consistency and that lots of amendments would be needed to protect the link between council-lors and the communities they

represent.
There have also been administrative errors while the reviews were being carried out. He had now decided that he would not implement any of the reviews already undertaken because it was unfair for elections in those areas to be fought on a different basis to the arrangements in place in the rest of Wales.

He added: "Clearly, the fact that the Boundary Commission has failed to deliver this pro-gramme of reviews consistently and within the agreed timescales gives me cause for concern.
"I have therefore instructed my

officials to establish an independent review to identify why these failures have occurred, and the actions that can be taken to ensure that the programme can be delivered efficiently and to a high standard in time for the 2016

elections."
The decision will come as a relief to the many independent candidates in the borough who had feared being wiped out by the larger parties in the new, multi member constituencies being pro

posed for parts of Bridgend. Seats like Coity and Coychurch would have been swept away and amalgamated into large wards. Also set to disappear were many single member wards held by various parties including Newton, Nottage, Penyfai, Llangynwyd, Llangeinor,

Blaengarw and Pontycymer. Perhaps the strangest proposal reinaps the strangest proposal was one to merge Cefn Cribwr with the Coytrahen section of the Aberkenfig Ward.
These two villages are separated by Baiden Mountain with no

linking roads and to go from one part of the ward to the other would entail travelling through another ward.

The Commission also proposed merging the Garw valley wards to create one multi member, while leaving three single member wards in the Ogmore valley.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20)

Porthcawl town council budget is to be frozen

Town Council has from BCBC. decided to freeze its precept for the new financial year.

The Conservative group proposed a standstill budget, which was unanimously supported by the Liberal Democrat and Labour groups as well.

This means that the precept will remain at £29.17p a year for householders whose properties are on Band D. Those in higher bands will pay more and those in lower

bands will pay less.

For the past two years, the council has increased its precept by £5 a year at Band D. Conservative leader David Deere said that this was done to give the council enough funds to do things in Porthcawl.

The biggest project funded by the town council is the skateboard park, where work is due to start in the new year, with completion in the spring. This has cost more than £80,000, but some

of the cost has been off-

PORTHCAWL set by match funding

Mr Deere said that this year's budget included £52,000 for the 'Added Value Partnership' which the council uses to draw in match funding from other sources.

He said that this year no specific schemes have been agreed but some of the money will go towards the Grand Pavilion and there is also a £10,000 sum set aside for the celebrations in the Jubilee in 2012.

Also included in the overall figure is £4,000, earmarked for the South Wales Miners' Eisteddfod, which now organises a brass band competition Pavilion.

They are losing their funding from other sources in 2011 and the eisteddfod was due to end. The grant from the town council will enable

it to keep going.
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 30)

UTSIDE of the family

summer hol-

iday, Christmas is

the most expensive

time of the year. It

is, therefore, a good

time to spend some

time looking at the

It's fair to say that

financial services are

not the most loved sec-

tor of our economy at present. The unprece-

dented near-collapse of

our banking system in

caused budget deficits

and job losses around

the world, and almost

everyone is tightening

Most people's opin-ions of the banks won't

learn about the findings

of some recent research

The analysis found

carried out by Which?

the consumer group.

heir belt as a result.

improve when they

2007 and 2008 has

family finances.



SWIM POOL CAMPA REACHES THE HEIGHTS!

THE picture (above) high-lighting calls for a thank at Machu Pichhu, the 'Lost City of the Incas', which was built around to be included in the town to be included in the town Inca Yupanqui and abandoned 100 regeneration plan, was years later following the destructaken recently when mem- tion of the Inca nation bers of Porthcawl Shout and Bridgend Ramblers and it became overgrown and friends trekked the lost to civilisation, until rediscov-Inca Trail in Peru.

"It takes a four-day camping trek opened to the public in 1970.

"The Spanish Conquistadors failed to find the trail or the city ca Trail in Peru.

Spokesman Gary Victor said: Hiram Bingham in 1911, and cal rock staircase to summit at Inti-

immediate solution.

The problem remains that Cable operators and some other service

providers, such as British Gas, are not

interested in rural areas

anywhere in the UK,

cost/revenue equation

Government and the Westminster Parliament

need to provide support if business interests, as

well as private individu-

als who work from home

simply because the

does not balance.

This is why The Welsh Assembly

Dead Woman's Pass - being the most demanding at 14,500ft.

"The last camp site is a high peak and you have breakfast looking down on the ever-changing clouds that fill the valley; then late in the afternoon of that fourth day Punku, the Inca Sun Gate

BROADBAND: lack of concern for the rural areas

T is interesting to see that Plaid Cymru and Chris Franks AM have, albeit belatedly, joined the rural Broadband debate.

This has been perhaps the most discussed topic at Colwinston
Community Council

over the last four years, during which time Jane Hutt AM and Alun Cairns MP, have been instrumental in getting the problems of rural

RITISH Legion

offers a deen

Porthcawl

thank you and con-

gratulations to the

people of Porthcawl.

They include those

who held tins during the cold weather on John

Street (also members of

'manned' stalls in shops,

the shops, supermarkets,

banks, hotels and pubs who displayed collecting

Remembrance ceremony

either BCBC or the police.

retailers locals and visitors

Andrew Collier, Porthcawl

in All Saints and at the

tins and the 500 people

who attended the

the Lions), those who

accessibility addressed throughout the area.

As a result, Colwinston is, we understand, about to be con-nected to the fibre optic feed which runs adjacent to the village along the A48 and also to benefit from the upgrading of the BT exchange in Bridgend.

Unfortunately, other rural areas are not quite so fortunate and in some

cases a satellite connection, for which grants of up to £1,000 are avail-able might be the only

Porthcawl town has

raised in excess of £12,000 for the Poppy

Appeal 2010 and all money raised has gone

directly to safeguarding the welfare, interests and

memory of those who

time

grapple not just with the problem,

but also their powerlessness in dealing with

It is years since my inquiry about a season ticket drew a blank, but that I would have been willing to

around for a free space, to queuing for the right to find the wrong change to feed a brain-teasing dalek.

The driving around is sometimes quicker but, by often taking longer than the shopping or meeting I

came for it is a serious disincentive to town visit-

ing.

I am sure that an annual or monthly fee would

pay for itself, and even more if ever our redevelop-ment happens, benefit all concerned – drivers and

pay for a resident's sticker shows that it is not meanness which prompts me to prefer driving

John Berry

and now rely on Broadband, are to com-British Legion pete successfully. thanks Porthcawl For their part, BT are notoriously difficult to contact and when this is achieved, conflicting

Readers

answers, explanations and promises come from different people.

This is incredibly frustrating and it is only through Alun Cairns' most recent efforts that we have been able to get credible and consistent answers and a better idea as to what improvements we might expect and

However, BT/Openreach still need to make the final connections to believe it when we see

Coun P Graham-Woollard, (Chairman, Colwinston

letters

Colwinston and I think it fair to say 'that we shall

Community Council)

'Laws that only apply to Wales should be **made** in Wales

are serving or who have N March 3 served in the Armed next year, there'll be a Thank you Porthcawl for a magnificent effort at a particularly difficult referendum to decide if Wales deserves a stronger (Branch Secretary, voice.

Royal British Legion Porthcawl) Over the last decade. the Assembly has gradually grown in stature and confidence. But the sys-Porthcawl parking tem for making laws that affect Wales is slow and HE issue of parking is again under discussion, as our poor councillors

complicated.
A Yes vote will help take Wales forward by speeding up the system of decision-making to allow Assembly Members to get on with the job.

For example, it has taken three years to get permission from London to ensure that all new homes are equipped with fire sprinklers to stop needless deaths in house

Even though our democratically-elected Assembly had supported

the proposal, it first had to be approved by civil servants, members of the House of Lords and MPs before it could become

Time and money is being wasted jumping through needless hoops. Even though we are from different parties we have come together to stand united behind a simple principle – laws that only apply in Wales should be made in

That's what the referendum on March 3 is about and we need your help to get a Yes vote. Please support the crossparty campaign by looking online at www.yesforwales.com and sign up to help

Jane Hutt AM (Labour), Chris Franks AM (Plaid Cymru) Andrew R T Davies

AM (Conservative)

Democrats)

Eluned Parrot (Liberal

that almost a quarter of all current accounts pay 0.1 per cent APR in interest or less - meaning that a permanent balance of £1,000 would give only £1 in interest in an entire year.

Many banks offer high interest rates initially, before closing the accounts for new cus tomers and drastically reducing the interest they give.
The banks rely on

customers not realising how little interest they are receiving, or not getting around to changing their accounts if they

Many people will be considering their finances in the coming weeks – whether as a result of the excesses of Christmas, a virtuous New Year's Resolution, or a mixture of both!

I recommend that they look into whether they are getting best value from the bank they use. I recommend that everybody take a few moments to see if they are getting good value for money from

your bank's services WESTMINSTER **NOTEBOOK**

Christmas is a good

time to check up on

refused financial servic-

es by more reputable

banks, can be left with

debts that they cannot

That is why I am a

passionate supporter of credit unions. Credit unions are financial co-

operatives with a 'com-mon bond' such as a

employer.
They can often offer loans at reasonable rates

to those who are exclud-

stream financial institu-

tions, who would other-

wise be tempted by legal loan sharks. Credit unions are owned and

controlled by their own members and not by

This means that their

profits are given out to savers and not in bonus-es to bankers. You can

find out more about

services credit unions

shareholders.

ed from more main-

shared place of resi-

dence or work, or

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive report from Westminster for **GEM** readers.

their current account. The best rate of interest available for a cur-rent account is 2.89 per cent, meaning that the average saver would earn an extra £322 per year if they switched to

I have been calling in Parliament for banks to be made to publish the current rate of interest on all statements, so that people can immediately see whether or not they're getting a good deal.

It is important that consumers are able to make informed choices and I don't think it's acceptable that banks can get away with hiding this information from their customers

The FSA will shortly be consulting on whether banks should be made to publish interest rates on statements for savings accounts. I will be pushing for such a measure, as well as seeing it extended to current accounts.

As unemployment grows, in particular in the run up to Christmas, many people are target-ed by door-to-door and high street lenders offering 'pay day loans' legal loan sharks. Christmas time accounts for half of all such loans.

Some of these firms offer loans at exorbitant rates of interest of up to 650 per cent per year, and punitive charges for late repayments. This means that even small loans can spiral out of control if a single pay ment is missed

Some of the most vulnerable people in society, who can be can provide on the website for the Association for British Credit Unions Limited at www.abcul.org.

The Bridgend Lifesavers Credit Union offers services to those living or working in Bridgend county.

I am supporting a campaign in Parliament to establish a link between credit unions and the Post Office net-

If credit union customers could access their accounts from their local Post Office, all would benefit: post offices could offer a new service and increase footfall, consumers could access their accounts more easily, and credit unions could reach new customers

Our Post Office network has enormous reach in our communi-ties, and this mutually beneficial arrangement could secure the future

of many branches.

I wish all of the readers of The GEM a Merry Christmas and urge you to find the time to look at your finances and ensure you can have a prosperous new

Euro funds hope for credit union

BRIDGEND Lifesavers credit union, based in Sarn, could be in line for European funding.

Welsh Euro MP Dr Kay Swinburne told staff that European funding for such enterprises was being investigated as a tool for coping with the consequences of the financial, economic and social crisis currently affecting the EU.

The Welsh Conservative MeP stated that a source of new potential EU funding would give the credit union more scope to assist local people wanting to learn different ways of handling and accessing their

But she also warned that credit unions like Bridgend Lifesavers could be inadvertently caught up in changes being proposed to end reckless banking behaviour and she said that, as a member of the committee dealing with this issue, she was working hard to ensure that this did not happen

MP meets new carers manager

MADELEINE unknown and unsung MOON, MP for their support is. Bridgend, has met Helen Pitts, the new manager Bridgend in services the role in Bridgend.

"As part of my ongo ing regular distribution of cheques to local volat untary organisations, I Carers surprised Helen with a Centre, to welcome cheque for £75 to help her from her previ- her fund any new initia ous post of organis- tives she may be considing carers support ering especially over the

Bridgend Rhondda to her new Centre is located at 71 Nolton Street, Bridgend The MP commented: CF31 3AE. Contact "We recognise the vitally details: 01656 658479; important role that car- email: enquiries@brid-ers play and how gendcarers.co.uk

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL DECEMBER 23) The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in

Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M			
16 Thur	01.42	7.5	14.19	7.7			
17 Fri	02.54	7.8	15.24	7.9			
18 Sat	03.49	8.1	16.13	8.3			
19 Sun	04.31	8.5	17.01	8.7			
20 Mon	05.15	9.2	17.44	9.2			
21 Tues	06.02	9.4	18.26	9.5			
22 Wed	06.47	9.7	19.11	9.6			
23 Thur	07.30	10.0	19.53	9.7			
While The CFM makes every effort to check the							

Vhile The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

Published by: Glamorgan GEM Ltd., 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL. Email: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk. Printed by NWN Ltd.

'DESTRUCTIVE EFFECT OF DRUGS'

Bridgend pair jailed for supplying heroin

TWO drugs traffickers were described as "very sad people" by a judge at Cardiff Crown Court.

Daniel Thomas, 26, and Karen Amos, 29, were told by Judge Christopher Llewellyn-Jones: "You are the classic illustration of the destructive effect of drugs"

The pair, from Bridgend, had been found guilty of possessing heroin with intent to supply and each was jailed for three-and-ahalf years.

Said the Judge: "Each of you is not unintelligent, but you have been using heroin and the result has been very destructive of your

Prosecutor Christian Jowett said that on July 1, plain clothed police officers in Bridgend spot-

by AJ SICLUNA

Amos was searched and found to be in possession of heroin.

She struggled and attempted to

At Bridgend Police Station, she was found to have more heroin on her and Thomas also had the drug.

They had denied the charge and said the heroin was for per-

It had a street value of about

Suzanne Thomas, for Amos, said: "She was dealing at street level, and has a history of addiction. She has been in custody for five months and finds the prison environment agreeable

"On her release, she will seek

ted the pair in a shop.

They took them outside and
Thomas' counsel, Hashib
Salman, said: "This is the first

occasion he has been involved in drugs trafficking and the offence is out of character.

"It is at the lower end of seriousness, and lacks sophistication.

"He didn't play on vulnerable eople, didn't have a lavish lifestyle, and the amount involved was not significant."

"At 26, he should be enjoying

the best years of his life but he will be behind bars. His life has been directionless and miserable but he is not utterly beyond

The Judge said the two had the heroin to pass on to others.

"I accept you were doing it to feed your own habit.

"People who do what you did must receive punishment.

He said the courts had to send the message that inevitable consequence was cus-

Porthcawl Comprehensive sixth form pupils present their cheque to Assistant Lead Nurse – Children's Services, Sian Townsend

'Slave auction' helps raise cash for children's ward

THE children's ward at Princess of Wales hospital has £500 to help revamp its playroom – thanks to Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

The money was raised during a week of "challenging activities", which included; 'I'm a teacher, get me out of here', a 'slave auction' and a special teachers' version of X-Factor

The 10 events across five days were devised and organised by a team of sixth formers, some of whom were on hand to present a cheque to the ward staff

Student Corey Bridgeman said: to raise the money.

suggested that we donate some of the money we raised to the children's ward. I am so happy we chose them, the playroom is a great place and we know for a fact that the cash will go some where it can help.

"We had a brilliant time raising the money and it gave us a great feeling of achievement when we

presented the cheque."

Head of year, Miss Crook, was also on hand for the presentation: "All the children have worked so hard. It was lovely for the whole school to be able to come together during Children in Need week

Assistant lead nurse - children's services, Sian Townsend, said: "The playroom isn't just for young children, as we have patients up to the age of 16 on the

"We are hoping to divide the room into an adolescent area, a baby bay and a toddler section, so we can cater for all ages.

"We are incredibly grateful for all donations, and especially for the amount of money raised by the students. Well done."
Play leader Wendy 'Sparkles'

Brookes added: "Thank you all for working so hard and thinking of us. Although we are very little,

Six years for **Kenfig Hill** heroin addict

by AJ SICLUNA

A KENFIG HILL mobile phone indicatman has been jailed for six years at Cardiff Crown Court for a drugs offence.

Andrew Henry, 38, admitted being con-cerned in the supply of a class A drug, heroin.

Judge Nicholas Cooke said: "The law in relation to people who supply heroin is

justly rigorous."
Prosecutor Stephen Harmes said that on September 23, the police executed a search warrant at a house in Kenfig Hill where a number of people, including people, includin Henry, were present.

They found drugs paraphernalia, and mactexts on Henry's its.

Mystery caller

brings warning

from the police

gained access to a house black trousers, a white

and engaged the resident top, a black cardigan, in conversation about her metal framed glasses,

Police Sergeant Joy Howells of Bridgend police said: "We are She was also seen driving a dark coloured Ford Ka.

ly sure they are who they 651660, or telephone

say they are. Crimestopper
"We would like to 0800 555 111.

board.

at a house in Gelli locate her.'

Street on December 3.

After she left the premises, it transpired

that she was a bogus

reminding people that they should not allow

anyone into their homes,

unless they are absolute-

young baby.

ed that he had been involved in supplying drugs.

The court was told that he had previously received a two-and-ahalf year sentence for possessing heroin with

is sad to see him before

the court.
"This was not high level commercial deal-

"It occurred when he fell in with drugs associates and he supplied to friends, not to strangers at large."

Mr Roberts said Henry himself was an addict who had not made large scale prof-

and a gold wedding ring

with diamonds across it.

and carrying a black clip

She was also seen

Anyone with informa-

tion is asked to contact

Bridgend public protec-tion unit on 01656

Crimestoppers free on

Lions' run aims to break record

PORTHCAWL Lions are hopeful that there will be a new world record for their 38-furlong run on Boxing Day this year.

Currently, the record for the men's event stands at 24minutes, 49 seconds and for the ladies at 27 minutes, 54 seconds.

intent to supply.

Said his counsel
Matthew Roberts: "It am sure the record will go for both the ladies and the men's race.

The main charity this year is the NSPCC and the event starts at 11am from the Hi Tide on a circular route. Runners can now register immediately on porthcawllions.org. or telephone Rhys on 01656 772369

This Saturday, December 18, is the last Lions' Christmas grotto

at the YMCA John Street, where Father ent from 10am-4pm. Each child receives a gift from Santa and the entrance fee is the same as last year, £2.50p.

Ralph Anslow President of Porthcawl Lions, said: "On behalf of the club, I would like to thank all those residents and visitors who have supported Porthcawl Lions Christmas charity

Proceeds from the Trolly Dash, Christmas grotto and the Boxing Day fun will go to Mencap, NSPCC and local charities.

Porthcawl Lions Club wishes everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous

DAVID RICHARDS (Porthcawl Lions Club)

Pat's a champion recycler!

CHAMPION recycler Pat Richards has won a competition to have her council tax paid in full for 2011.

Pat, from Ogmore Vale, won Bridgend County Borough Council and Bridge FM's joint competition to find the borough's recycling champion.

A council spokes-woman stated that over the last two months, Bridge FM's roving Recycling Ranger had been following recycling collection crews.

Households that have been recycling correctly were then randomly selected and invited to a grand final event at Bridgend's Brewery Field to take part in a special green knock-out challenge - with Pat named the eventual win-

ner. She has won a cheque equivalent to her council tax paid in full for the next year.

Presenting the prize, council leader Coun Mel Nott said: "Since the new recycling scheme was introduced in June, our partners May Gurney, have reported a really amazing response.
"Our residents are

recycling more than ever have made us ond nature.



ABOVE: Pat collects her prize.

amongst the best in Wales. The competition was an extra incentive and a great way to get people talking about cor-

rect recycling.
"We need everyone to keep following her excel-lent example and make 2011 a really green new

Pat herself added: "It was totally unexpected and I am absolutely delighted. I'm a single parent, so this prize will make a huge difference to my daughter and I. "I've always tried my

the new system fairly best to recycle and found easy to get used to. I think the trick is to stick at it until it becomes sec-

Police appeal over property

FOLLOWING the recent arrest of a 36vear-old Porthcawl man for alleged drugs offences, police have recovered a large quantity of property, including power and gardening tools and property potentially from motor vehicles.

A large amount of this remains unidentified at present and Police believe it may

have been acquired as a result of criminal activity across Bridgend county horough.

Anyone who has been the victim of a theft or burglary can contact Police Sergeant Dave Williams at Porthcawl police station to dis-

cuss the matter



Townswomen's £650 cheque goes to charity

CAERAU police are speak to this woman and meeting warning residents to are appealing for any be cautious, following information which may a suspicious incident help us to identify and She was described as A spokesman reported white, slim built, in her that a woman purporting early 30s and around 5ft chairman to be a social worker 4ins. She was wearing

Richardson. bers and also a past mem-

cheque for £650 is to be Norway adventures. presented at our January

representatives. our twin guild in Mansfield and are look-

AT the December ing forward to meeting of up with some of them

Townswomen's ed to Mrs Pat Ladlow on Guild, a warm welher Ruby wedding, and come was given to Mrs Joan Winn Jones all present, by was presented with her

After business was We then had a minute's silence as we enjoyed a concert put had lost one of our mem-

Ine next meeting will be held at All Saints Fairways Hotel was a Church Hall on January huge success and raised money for money for the David Anderson will be Alzheimer's society; a telling us about his

meeting to one of their Guild would like to wish everyone a very happy We had a report from Christmas and all the in very best in the new year

FREDA RODGER

Porthcawl next year at conference. Flowers were present

Dee 40-year badge.

Townswomen'

Log onto www.bridgendtoday.co.uk or www.porthcawl-today.co.uk and read your GEM online!

WE ARE NOW ONLINE!

highlights primary school's fears over traffic dangers...

A NEW CAR PARK GETS THUMBS-UP

A primary school, which feared it would miss out on a car park needed to ensure children were not endangered by traffic on a main road, is celebrating news that it will go ahead after all.

The relieved head-teacher of Llangan Primary School, Mrs Mary Noyes, announced: "We're delighted to get what we wanted with the building of a car park which will ensure the safety of the children.' Last week, The

GEM explained how governors and staff were fearful that someone might get injured outside the school gates, with vehicles often driving along the main road at excessive speeds.

The school authorities had hoped that a £130,000 scheme for a car park behind Llangan Primary would go ahead in February, but a change in what was planned

led to the costs rocketing to £280,000.

The project appeared doomed because of excessive

Currently, pupils are picked up by their par-ents who park in a layby in front of the school with heavy traffic passing by just feet from their cars.

But the matter was resolved, following a meeting involving the Vale Council Leader. Coun Gordon Kemp, the director of learning and development, Brian Jeffreys, the school's head of governors, Huw Davey, and the headteacher Mrs

During the meeting. Mrs Noyes was able to take the leader and the director of learning to the proposed site for the new car park.

Part of the reason that the scheme is able to go ahead in the first place is because of the generosity of Mr John Homfray, a local landowner, who two years ago gave a field to the school for the



ABOVE: Mrs Mary Noyes, staff, pupils, parents, Alun Cairns MP and Coun Ray Thomas are celebrating the news that Llangan Primary School should be getting its new car park some time in the New Year.

REPORT by TIM **CHĂPMAN**

building a car park. Mrs Noyes said: "We're hoping it will go ahead in the New Year, but it will first

have to go to planning. "I'd like to thank everyone who supported us. We're also grateful for the help of the local MP Alun Cairns and Coun Ray Thomas.

"This is a huge relief for the parents who have petitioned locally for a car park

for many years."
Alun Cairns said: "When I visited the school in September, it was the number one issue raised and I'm delighted that through the campaign by the governors, head teacher, the parents,

and Coun Thomas, a solution now seems to have been found."

Mr Cairns said that if the budget allowed the car park to be situated nearer to the school than originally planned that would be 'the better option".

Mrs Noyes added: "We are also looking for help from any local industries that might be able to support us in terms of resources or funding. Mrs Noyes first

called for a car park away from the main road seven years ago five years ago a youngster sustained a serious head injury after being hit by a vehicle wing mirror, and three years ago two women escaped injury when they were picking up children by passing vehicles.

Bryan Jeffreys, the director of learning and development at the Vale Council. explained: "The meeting pro-

vided a helpful opportunity to clarify the expectation of the council to ensure the development of pupil safety arrangements which are achievable, effective and which will be fully utilised by

parents.
"The council's decision to amend the proposals to achieve these objectives was understood and supported. New plans are now being developed in consultation with the school."

It seems that next vear the school will have two major celebrations – its centenary year and its new 'safe' car park.

Not a SHOUTing match, but branch was under pressure

Porthc 'SHOUT' opportunity to respond to the GEM article headed the county and be avail-'SHOUTing match able to address county-Porthcawl branch is thrown wner out of County'.

I consider myself well the

qualified to comment as, with others, I have been personally involved in the growth of the SHOUT Forum meetings from their inception in 2004 through to today, where I serve as information and executive officer of Porthcawi SHOUT, having held as County posts as County SHOUT's first chairman and first president in the

I would inform your readers that there has in fact been no SHOUTing match, but there has certainly been an unfortushout attempt by County SHOUT to restrict the actions of Porthcawl SHOUT.

It is ironic that County SHOUT has sought to dissolve Porthcawl SHOUT when it was the writer with others from Porthcawl SHOUT who were responsible for the

our to unify the voice of older people throughout wide issues where and when they were identi-

Action Group' to influence and prioritise the deployment of county resources and to ensure older people's overall interests were protected at all times.

It was never intended that County SHOUT should interfere or, indeed, speak out on specific local issues unless asked for support, and it certainly was never intended to affect the autonomy groups.

The present state of affairs has arisen because County SHOUT has tried to insist that Porthcawl Shout agree all its represent the people cactions in advance and even had the temerity to successfully in the past. criticise press articles submitted without County Shout's permission.

County SHOUT then had the audacity to 'dissolve' Porthcawl month at Trinity Church Formation of County SHOUT, including pro-SHOUT in the first hibiting the use of the place. SHOUT logo which was Clive M

allow The purpose of such a in fact donated to grouping was specifical-Porthcawl 'SHOUT' in the ly so that County the first place through the SHOUT should endeavthe generosity of Mr Norman Harris of Harris Printers Porthcawl, and later at my suggestion used by County SHOUT.

Members Porthcawl SHOUT were disgusted to receive the 'Never Too Old edict from County SHOUT but far from shouting, quietly and effectively decided they had every right to remain autonomous and after careful deliberation, further decided to disassociate themselves from County SHOUT.

Porthcawl SHOUT, which is also formerly associated to Porthcawl Chamber of Trade Porthcawl Civic Trust, Porthcawl Porthcawl Stroke Club Porthcawl and Neighbourhood Watch, intends to continue to represent the people of Porthcawl as it has done

Porthcawl SHOUT without will also continue to welcome attendance monthly meetings held on the first Friday of the Church.

MP hits out at time-wasting

 \mathbf{of} behaviour debate on defence plained. spending in Wales.

She pointed out: "Wales makes up five per cent of the UK population, but contributes eight per cent of the armed St Athan and how best to forces. About 2,300 people work in defence in um enterprises in this Wales. It does not receive vital sector of the Welsh an equal proportion of economy was lost. military spending. South- "This was comp military spending. Southeast England receives ed by the Minister, Wales

"It was very frustrat- Moon added.

"What should have

£7.1 billion pounds and Andrew Robathan wast Scotland receives £1.5 ing even more time in his receives just £390 mil- about his family tree and

BRIDGEND MP ing that the Conservative Madeleine has hit out at the MPs with no links to water time in Wales to waste time in the debate and severely Conservative MPs during a Commons to contribute," she com-

> been an opportunity to hold the Government to account for the decision to cancel investment into nurture small and medi-

summing up by talking links to Wales," Mrs

COACH WITH THE MOST!

DESPITE the inclement weather. Llantwit Major Friends of Bridgend the outstanding gen-Samaritans enjoyed their annual trip to Bath and the

Christmas market. Many thanks to Dave, our fabulous driver from Craigiau Travel, The GEM and

local shops for helping us to let everyone know, and (of course) erosity and goodwill of our lovely trippers.

Thanks to everyone. ve raised a record £380.35! Very many thanks again. Samaritans

PLAY AREA IS OPENED AT EWEN



The scene at the opening of the play area at Ewenny.

An Assembly grown-up youngsters at the official opening of tain the area.

The official opening Sunday morning!

With support from the Creative Communities team and "I am delighted that funding from the Welsh Assembly Government's Assembly's Rural Rural Development Plan, Tidy Towns and the Tidy Towns has been Aggregates Levy, the able to back excellent new playground has schemes like this."

The Tidy Towns has been Aggregates Levy, the able to back excellent schemes like this." ment with space for par-ents and children to play in a lovely setting in the

village.

Vale AM Jane Hutt vale AM Jane Hutt to open to the plante said: "I would like to congratulate Ewenny Community Council on securing the funds and January 3 from 7.20cm 2 are

VIP ground project with the

joined support of the Valo

Ewenny play area, attracted a large number on an icy but sunny of children and their parents, who were pleased with the new facility in

Rural this thriving village. m and "I am delighted that Development Plan and Tidy Towns has been

Pool open YNYSAWDRE pool and fitness centre is to open to the public December 27, 28 and the play- 7.30am-3pm.

BRIDGEND residents have been thanked by Operation Christmas Child for donating more than 3,700 gift-filled shoeboxes to the charity for

vulnerable overseas children. The shoeboxes have come from communities throughout the area, including Pencoed, Maesteg, Porthcawl and

Bridgend. Teams of Operation Christmas Child volunteers at the charity's processing centre in Cardiff checked and loaded the shoeboxes for their journey to Belarus, Crimea and Kosovo.

Area Coordinator for

Shoe box appeal thanks residents Operation Christmas Child, Ted Bird said: "The shoeboxes, packed with toys, educational items, sweets and other small gifts, will bring Christmas joy to children who are living in difficult conditions in orphanages, children's homes, street shelters and hospitals; or perhaps with their family but in conditions of poverty.

"People here have been brilliant. Times are quite tough for many, but they have still gone out of their way to pack a shoebox.

"The encouraging comments our volunteers get when collect-ing shoeboxes from schools,

churches, businesses, at drop-off points and from people handing them in at the warehouse remind us there are many good, kindhearted people out there.

Mr Bird added: "Although most of our lorries are already on their way, do not worry - you have not missed out!

"The good news is that we have a new online service that allows people to fill a shoebox up to December 25.

"All they need to do is go to www.operationchristmaschild.org uk/shoeboxworld.'

Who wants to build what and where?

three metres or fell one of the ash trees ((1984) OBC No 03). Mr and Mrs N Campbell

- Coed y Mwstwr Uchaf on open space. Farm, Coychurch - c/u HD Ltd - 2-4 Wyndham Coed y Mwstwr Uchaf and associated conversion works to redundant parn and two self-cater-

barn and two self-catering holiday cottages.

Mr B Arnesen –

Graigwen, Hendre
Road, Pencoed – extension for therapeutic
indoor pool, alter roof to
provide bedroom and improvements.

Mr A Gough – 26 Station Row, Pontyrhyl, Bridgend – new hard-standing and replacement

Mr J Lynn – 23 Gregory fireproof French doors.

Close, Pencoed – crown Laleston Community reduce three oak trees Council – land at and two ash trees by Wordsworth Avenue Community Wordsworth Avenue and Shakespeare Avenue, Bridgend – erection of three items of teenager play equipment

Street, Bridgend – proposed refurbishment, extension and new floor.

Maesteg Celtic RFC –

Garth Park, Bridgend Road, Maesteg – two lockable steel storage containers rugby/football training equipment.

A Davies Salisbury Road, Maesteg – ground floor single storey rear exten-

standing and replacement garage.

Wales & West Housing gazebo.

Miss Joanne Davies – 13 Association – Coed Mr R and C Jones – 51

Llwyn Coch, Castell, Coychurch Glenwood Close,

Broadlands, Bridgend – Road, Bridgend – Coychurch, Bridgend – Convert garage and increase size and height single storey conservators. convert garage and increase size and height sin replace garage door with of brick boundary walls ry

to plots 1, 16, 26, 27 and structure. 28 from 1,800mm to Ma I Community 28 from 1,800mm to Ms J Gardener – 17 land at 2.100mm.

HD Ltd House, 38-40 Dunraven Place, Bridgend – proposed extension, refur-BCBC Property Services bishment and new gates. Mr J Horsey – 23 Ffordd Candleston, Broadlands, Bridgend convert integral garage to dining room (retrospective).

Park Dean – Trecco Bay, male cubicle. Porthcawl – environ-mental scoping opinion for Trecco Bay coastal

56 School House Nursery, Road, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend fence to bottom of school garden/raised decking garage. area with ramp/wooden

replacing existing front.

Tonteg, Pencoed - pro-

Pandy Park public toilets, Pandy Road, Aberkenfig - create a disabled toilet facility, including new entrance to front and reconfigure

Mrs G Hale - land rear of Heather Cottage, protection. Merthyr Mawr Road,
Ms Jackie Roberts – Old Bridgend – approval of reserved matters for one detached dwelling and

> Mr D Terzic Maesteg Road, Maesteg - loft conversion with Close, dormer window to rear and Velux window to

<u>AT YOUR HEART OUT.</u> Bridgend Elfsteddfod smashes the world record!

WHAT have New York and Bridgend got 608 elves, despite having a huge population of many in common? Hundreds of elves, that's millions.

Bridgend organised an *Elfsteddfod* on Saturday when 720 people dressed as elves gathered together in the town centre and managed to smash New York's record for staging the world's largest gather-

ing of elves.

The Big Apple was only able to muster a measly



Millions.

A challenge will now be made to New York mayor Michael Bloomberg to top Bridgend's total.

To qualify as an elf, people had to turn up wearing their own red or green costumes and then special Elf hats were provided to everyone who took part.

There was also entertainment from stilt walking allowed to explorite of the production of the produc

There was also entertainment from stilt walking elves and acrobatic elves, plus music from Bridgend ElfM and the attraction of the Christmas market.

The event was supported by town centre businesses and the Elf hats were supplied by the Travel House and Logo Toys.

The event was organised by Rhiannon Kingsley who is town centre manager for BCBC, plus Bridgend Town Council.

Bridgend town council leader David Unwin said that he was delighted at the turn-out: "It was great fun and was something for the children.

"If it has put Bridgend on a world wide map, then that's wonderful."

that's wonderful."

BCBC leader Coun Mel Nott said that these

events helped to promote the town and bring in visitors. He congratulated everyone who took part.

PHOTOGRAPHS by PAUL JONES & ANDY WICKS

For more pictures, go to: www.valeevents.co.uk/bridgendelves



















YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Brynmenyn

pupils excel AT Brynmenyn Primary School Christmas concert, classes three and four presented 'Bizzy Bethlehem' to parents, governors and friends.

The play opened with The Little Soldier organising all the people coming to
Bethlehem – he had them all queuing up quietly to have their names recorded. Then along came

Mary and Joseph, who didn't fit into his scheme of things at all - a baby born in a manger with visiting royalty and shepherds, together with animals in a stable.

It was a lovely version of the traditional Christmas story. The narrative by the children was clear, and the singing was beautiful, with plenty of enthusi-

Brynmenyn school has a good reputation for its musical activities and this production was no exception. Every child had a part to play.

Mrs Dale, the headteacher, congratulated the children on their per formance and thanked teachers Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Turner, for all their hard work.

She also thanked the children's parents for their involvement in making costumes.

Club gets a history show MEMBERS of the Aberkenfig Retired

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

of the GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ TEL: 01656 725399

email: tvnvcoed1@vahoo.co.uk



Joyous singing in Bethlehem at Brynmenyn Primary School.

Persons Club were recently entertained by pupils from Tondu Primary School, who put on a show depicting life under the Roman emperors, and how their army conquered the known

It included the part played by gladiators when slaves were thrown into the arenas to fight these trained sol-

While the boy pupils showed their prowess in beating the enemy, the girls displayed their

singing and dancing skills

To help members with their Christmas shopping, the club hired a coach which took them to Morrisons, where they enjoyed a couple of hours exploring the store, and had lunch.

The coach then took them to Swansea town centre with its well known stores and indoor market.

Have songs, will travel! TONDU Primary School recently had a carol concert in the entrance hall of Sainsburys to raise money for Barnado's children's charity.

They also put on a concert for shoppers at Bridgend on December 8 in the afternoon entertaining the retired persons club with their

carol singing.

They then performed at the Abergarw residential home on December 9, and Glanyrafon residential home on December 13; the following day they enter-tained officers of the

council in the Civic Offices, Angel Street. Their final concert

was in Tondu Wesley Methodist Church on December 15.

The children have also performed at the school's Christmas favre and in concerts at the school to entertain par-

ents.

To help working parents, the school will have a club on December 20-21. A full day session will be £25, which will last from 8am-6pm.

There will also be half-day sessions available between 8am-1pm, or 1pm-6pm and will cost £14. To book your child on any session phone Jane on 07775 589603.

Candy Cane HOREB Baptist Chapel in Nantymoel, the chapel located in Dinan Close, will be holding a 'Candy Cane' carol service on Sunday. December 19 at 6pm.
There will be mince pies and hot drinks served after the service.

On December 24 at 6pm, there will be a service to commemorate the birth of Christ; everyone will be most welcome to both servic-

To talk to the Pastor at the chapel, phone Chris Bluto on 01443 675424

Church carols

OGMORE Valley Male Voice Choir will be performing at a special carol concert in St Bride's Church, Llansantffraid, tomorrow (Friday, December 17) to raise funds for renovations required to the church building.

Tickets cost £5, available at the door. Community Singing – The public is invited to first time carol singing event in the Square in Aberkenfig on Wednesday December 22 at 6pm

Services ST DAVID'S Church, Bettws: On Christmas

Eve at 4pm there will be Christingle service. On Christmas Day, there will be a service at

St Bride's Church, Llansantffraid: There will be a carol service on Sunday, December 19, at 6pm, followed by mince pies and hot drinks. Everyone is welcome.

On Christmas Eve. there will be a Midnight nass service at 11.30pm St John's Church,

Aberkenfig: Will hold a Christmas day service at

St David's Church, Wyndham: There will be a carol service on Sunday, December 19, at 5pm; everyone is welcome

On Friday, December 24, there will be special crib service for children at 5pm, and Midnight mass at 11pm. Christmas Day has a

DAVID T BURT | service at 10am



ABOVE: Couns Clive and Pauline James pictured among many enjoying the Christmas merriment!

Festive Lunch

I HAD the pleasure of welcoming the children from years 1 and 2, and their teachers, from Mynydd Cynffig Infants School, Kenfig Hill, to the Talbot Community Centre on Wednesday last week, for the first

of two Christmas lunches being held there this year.

The centre was packed with diners including two of the school governors, Greta Rogers and Christine Richardson, BCBC councillor Clive James, community councillors Paula James (chair), Allan John and Gina

Hooper. We were entertained by wonderful carol singing from the children, including solos by Ffion Harmen, Lucy Bowater, Bronagh O'Neil and Sofia Evans from year 1 and Sonny Wood, Sam Maddock and Jude Abrahan-Jones

from year 2.
Following a long ovation for their excellent performance, the teachers and pupils were thanked by me and school governor Mrs Rogers, and presented with selection boxes donated by the community council.

Last Saturday, 75 locals enjoyed a fabu-lous night in the Talbot, for this year's Christmas gig. With fantastic entertainment from comedy duo Black Gold, brilliant singing from female vocalist, Ali Delgardo and Gavin, a superb DJ, the atmosphere was elec-

It was a case of the community thoroughly enjoying themselves in



COMMUNITY **NEWS** from **KENFIG HILL** AND PYLE by Richard Sims

Telephone: 01656 746840 Mobile: 07802 439679 <u>E-Mail: richardsims@talktalk.net</u>

the community centre, which is owned by the community and run by the community.

Community Watch

THE Neighbourhood Policing Team, assisted by the Automatic Number Plate Recognition Team, recently patrolled local areas in marked and unmarked patrol vehicles.

Among the results were 14 Fixed Penalty Notices being issued for various alleged offences three vehicles being seized and eight breath tests being given (which were all negative).

Carol services

LESSONS and carols, led by Canon Phillip White, will be held in St James' Church on December 19, at 6pm.

Both St James' Church in Pyle and St Mary Magdalene in Mawdlam, will be doing the same as last year, by having a Christmas cara tree for people to hang the cards they wish to send to people at the church.

Schools' success

THE parents, grandparents and friends of year-3 and year-4 at Mynydd Cynffig Junior School enjoyed their Christmas concert 'Santa's on Strike' at

the Pvle Life Centre. Although several of

the children were feeling under the weather, they put on a brilliant performance.

Congratulations to the teachers and support staff for their contributions in making the concert such a success.

Friends of Mynydd Cynffig Junior School would like to thank the parents and children for their donations, help and hard work which helped them raise a magnificent £815 at this year's

Christmas fair. Congratulations to the seven pupils who were nominated for impressing the staff at the school during last week and in particular to Ben Mulholland from class 2, who won the Headteacher's award.

Festive music AN EVENING of Christmas music and song with guest artists will take place on December 19 at 6pm in St Theodore's

Church, Kenfig Hill. There are no tickets for this event, but a col-lection will be taken in

aid of church funds.
On December 20 at 7pm there are carols and the draw for the Christmas hamper in St Coleman's Church, Cefn Cribwr.

On Christmas Eve at 4pm, the crib service, for the young at heart, will be held at St Theodore's Church, followed by the Midnight Mass at 11pm.



Peter Richards and his family from Kenfig Hill.

Bridgend Choir's Christmas concert a rip-roaring success!

Angels watching over Bethlehem.

ST MARY'S Nolton soprano, Church, Bridgend, was the venue for another great charity fundraising success, this year supporting 'Llamau' in the locality.

A beautiful church adorned with 38 decorated Christmas trees entered by schools, organisations and busi-nesses, proved to be an attractive stop off for townspeople throughout the week.

Those who visited on Saturday will have seen live music performed throughout the day and the return of regular visitors, Bridgend Male Choir in the evening.

Five soloists from Bridgend Male Choir from sang during the concert, the entertainment was which also attracted the local organist, Scott performance of a fine Williams, who is well

Jennifer who Walker, who has appeared with the choir

on numerous occasions.

The choir opened with light traditional items before moving on to seasonal favourites, many of which were sung jointly with the enthusiastic congregation.

Jennifer was in superb

form with the author's choice being 'O Holy Night', 'Ave Maria' and with the Bridgend Choir, O Virgin of the Angel

Bridgend Madeleine Moon, a regular supporter of the Christmas Tree Festival. was delighted that her favourite carol, 'In the Bleak Midwinter' included in Jennifer's

content. Also contributing to



Scott Williams

known at St Mary's, having played there regular-ly before, also linking with the choir.

Scott entertained with solo pieces and accom-panied the choir in a number of items. Piano accompanist, Laura Smith worked with the and Jennifer Walker and deserved her rousing ovation at the conclusion, as did hard working musical director, John Jenkins and compère, Gareth Davies. Bridgend Male Choir

has now concluded its formal 2010 50th birthday programme, which started and ended in its home town, kicking off with a school tour fundraiser at Brynteg School and ending at St Mary's ,supporting homeless and less privileged youths through Llamau

Earlier in the year, the choir received a Citizenship Award from the Borough Mayor for helping charities raise in excess of £1 million, and for their work as ambassadors for Bridgend.

It goes into 2011 with the aim of extending that total with its treasured purpose of achieving 'friendship through

Local college extension will help more disabled students

which will enable **Bridgend College to** increase its residential facilities for young people with disabilities or additional learning needs by more than 30 per cent, has now officially launched - following a £40,000 investment from Fairwood Trust.

Known Fairwood wing, the extension at the 24-hour care and curriculum pro-vision facility, Weston

College to set up a dedicated quiet, low stimulus, sensory area, the Fairwood room, within Weston House and to purchase state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment are state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment are specifically to help truly exemplary project which aims to increase to further education," Kath Jones, Weston House manager, explained.



Familiarising themselves with the new entertainment equipment at Weston House, Bridgend College are Meilir Sion, Charles Middleton, Fairwood Trust director and Kath Jones, Weston House manager.

for up to eight more students with physical disabilities or facing significant challenges.

"The investment has also enabled Bridgend College to set up a dedicated quiet, low stimulus of the service of

VA NEWMAN GLASS QUIZ LEAGUE

Six Bells' 100 per cent record is lost at Pyle

Llangewydd Arms had the highest score on Monday, December 6, when they made 54 at Maesteg Catholic Club, who managed a worthy 45.

again, got 51 to Llynfi Arms' 48-40 at Oldcastle 'A'
Arms 38, although Llynfi were and Tyrisha Royals celewithout their sports brated back-to-back vic-tories after their 49-42 'expert'

Mackworth Arms' 46 win against Laleston Innroved too much against 'A'. proved too much against luckless Covchurch Wanderers who struggled to 27

Tondu Railway Club were almost back to full

Surprise of the season so far must be Six Bells losing their 100 per cent record to Pyle RFC. The score was 38-37, with Six Bells bemoaning making the wrong choice Royal Oak Nomads strength but went down of five or six 'either-or' questions. They are still well clear at the top of Division Two, however, as the next three are six

as the next three are six points adrift. They are Cabo Roche and Pheasant Poachers, who beat them 48-40 and Llangeinor AFC, 49-37 winners away to

Surprise of the season

Inn 'B' who beat Heol-y-Cyw RFC 39-36, followed a point behind by the aforementioned Gamekeepers and Pyle RFC and Oldcastle 'B' who won 40-27 at Oddfellows Arms.

day?

2. Which Russian city

2. Tanan is the

would you associate
Coventry Blaze, Hull
Stingrays and Newcastle
Vipers?

4. Which battle, one of

fought seven miles west of York on July 2, 1646? A RUDGE

(Hon sec)

3 Ісе Носкеу. 2 Vladivostok. Cipnup VARMEBS:

Rail suicides: MP welcomes staff training

prevention in the distress and Samaritans. House of Commons.

The group heard presentations from Network

Network Rail jointly ed issue in the rail indus-launched the strategy try.

"For far too long, the launched the strategy earlier this year. On average, there are 240 suit ocides a year on the rail suicide on the railways

BRIDGEND MP network. The strategy
Madeleine Moon
last week chaired a
meeting of the All
Party arrays on six Party group on sui- trained to approach peocide and self-harm ple who are in emotional distress and refer them to

Mrs Moon commented: "I would firstly like and Samaritans Samaritans and Network Rail on the development of this vital strategy.
Samaritans egy. of this vital strategy. It and addresses a long-neglect-



Madeleine Moon MP with Rachel Kirby-Rider from the Samaritans and Martin Gallagher of Network Rail.

to prevent it.
"This strategy

has been that 'nothing incredibly important and can be done' and little I was encouraged to hear investment has been that early feedback from made in looking at ways station staff who have to prevent it. is very positive.

SENIOR LAWYER CALLS FOR RETURN TO TRADITIONAL PROFESSIONAL VALUES

Wales, including

selling, as well as

as family law.

property services such

enhancing our existing

expertise in areas such

wills, probate and trusts.

employment law and

as house buying and



Beech & Co Lawyers, commercial property and business law specialists of Cowbridge have merged with Peter Davies Solicitors of Cardiff and James & Bulteel of Pontypridd. The three firms have joined together under the umbrella of a new business venture called Glamorgan Law.

"This is a great move for us" said Richard Beech. "Glamorgan Law represents a great opportunity for us to offer our rapidly growing client base in South Wales and elsewhere a

Each member firm of Glamorgan Law will retain its individual identity and speciality focus but will be able to call on the skills of the other parts of the new business when needed. It's good for us and good for our clients" Peter Davies, President of the Cardiff Law Society, said: "We have built a strong reputation as one of the leaders in the field of litigation and dispute resolution in South Wales in the last

decade. As a result of

our mergers this year

we can now meet all our

Richard Beech, who has unrivalled commercial property and business law expertise adds a cutting edge to our services for business clients." He continued: "In the current economic climate it is understandable that many law firms are anxious about the threat from major players such as banks and supermarkets who want a piece of the legal market and are looking to move into traditional areas of legal practice such as house conveyancing and wills and probate work. It is true that some,

particularly smaller high

street practices may not

offices throughout South confident that we are in a very strong position to meet the challenges and thrive in the years ahead. I have no doubt that there will remain a robust demand for lawyers in traditional law firms who are able to combine good value with excellent service delivered by properly trained lawyers. Jill Bulteel, resident partner at Glamorgan law, Pontypridd, added: "Clients justifiably expect solicitors to behave in a decent, honourable, professional manner and to deliver a high level of skill at reasonable cost. Not all of our profession has covered itself with glory in the past couple of decades. We believe that a return to traditional professional values is essential to combat the big battalions such as the Co-op and Tesco law and that is what Glamorgan Law is all

Skin Studio

of Penarth Advanced Treatments. Advanced Results



SPECIAL SALE

(for 1 week only) ALL TREATMENTS HALF PRICE and valid until 31st January!

An ideal Christmas Solution . . .

For Her... For Him...

Cleansing facials, body sculpting, relaxing pamper sessions. Indulge your loved one -



T: 02921 250 221

E: skinstudio@hotmail.co.uk W: www.skinstudiowales.com



Pheasant Gamekeepers.
Then come Laleston

Here are your four

1. In the USA, in which month of the year is Martin Luther King

on the Sea of Japan is the terminus of the Trans-Siberian Railway?

3. With which sport

the bloodiest of the English Civil War, was

ноом полгирм 4



The new enterprise offers businesses, individuals and public bodies a comprehensive

range of services from offices throughout the region

For further information contact Richard Beech, Jill Bulteel or Peter Davies at

www.glamlaw.co.uk

Cowbridge office: 01446 771 742 Richard Beech | Cardiff office: 029 2022 5472 Peter Davies Pontypridd office: 01443 408 455 Jill Bultee

£20,000 TARGET TO HELP YOUNGSTER

by TIM

CHAPMAN

the new fundraiser will

involve auctioning

items that have been

kindly given to us.
"We have a rugby

Welsh captains who

went on the Mount

Kilimanjaro climb.

signed Cardiff Blues

rugby top, and we've

got a golf cap auto-graphed by the Ryder

Cup golfers.
"One man won £100

on the horses and told

of British Gas has

ents delivered to

raised £1,200 and is

arranging to have pres-

Tobias, which include a DVD/TV and a globe

that can be projected

to Tobias!

us he wanted to give it

'Natalie Braithwaite

"Another item is a

ball signed by the

Tracey said: "Part of

FUNDRAISER PLANNED TO **GET TOBIAS A** BREATH **PACEMA**

for Tobias Lunnon have set themselves the huge new target of £20,000 to pay for a breathing pacemaker.

They hope it will make life that little bit more bearable for the six-year-old youngster who was paralysed in a road traffic collision, and remains in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, with his mum Fiona at

his side. Chief fundraiser Tracey Smith explained: "Our aim is to do a massive new fundraiser in the New Year to get Tobias a breathing pacemaker, which costs £20,000.

"It will help him off the tracheotomy and mean that when he goes to school, he will

rather than two.'

Tobias attends a school in the hospital and keeps in touch with his friends at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant in Barry via a Skype device attached to a lapton computer, paid for by fundraisers in Barry

and the rest of the Vale.

Tracey said: "I know
this is a very big target, but we're going to try our hardest. With the help of The GEM, Steve Powell and Bro Radio, local band Brother Steve, and others, we think we can go

a good way to the total. "Even if we raised just half of it - £10.000 it might mean we could get the remaining amount from a funding source

People continue to help Tobias and Fiona in all sorts of ways



Tobias enjoying a short, but cold break just outside the hospital.

onto the ceiling. Tobias has also managed to get outside the hospital building in the last few days.

Mum Fiona said: "Tobias got out in the cold and was wrapped up like an eskimo against the winter wind!

"We joked that he looked like Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer!

"His new chair should be arriving next week, and that will have a proper head sup-port, and will be easier to push than the armchair version.

"Tobias also went on the tilt table and managed to go up to 90 per cent. In fact, he asked the physiotherapists to put him up the whole way - he likes to push himself a little bit fur-

ther." Fiona is also heart-

ened by the fact that Tobias is doing so well educationally.

"He recently completed an online maths test at the hospital school and was a year ahead in his result. He is really proud of his abilities and often comes out top of the

class." Fiona added: "Thank you to every-one who has kindly taken the time to send Christmas cards to Tobias. He eagerly looks forward to his mail and enjoys seeing

the cards.
"The hospital let him put up his Christmas tree early. Tobias and I want to wish everyone a truly magical Christmas

The GEM will give more details on the new fundraiser in the New

Cheques payable to Tobias Lunnon can be handed into Steve Nicholls Estate Agents at 15 High Street, Barry, CF62 7EB.

a Week

Christmas song will boost the Heroes

A SONG written by a former Pencoed Comprehensive student for aspiring band, Little Ambulance, is looking to bring the true spirit of Christmas to the charts.

'Maybe This Christmas!' was original-ly recorded at Christmas last year in a radio studio at Camp Bastion, while two of the band were serving with the Royal Navy in Afghanistan.

The band is now releasing the song in support of Help for Heroes, with all profits from sales going to the charity. It is available to buy online through iTunes and other digital stores.

Songwriter and gui-

tarist Sub-Lieutenant Dave Emery and lead vocalist Lieutenant Phil Clark met while on active duty with 857 Naval Air Squadron in Afghanistan and started writing music together, as a way to relax during life in the desert base.



Left to right: Lieutenant Phil Clark and Sub-Lieutenant Dave Emery.

friends from school, and were soon in the recording studio in Christmas releases.
the UK to put the finish"We identified that

Observer, who is now all. back at the Royal Naval they were determined to festive releases.

Upon their return to "We wanted to bring the UK, the pair formed Christmas back! I wrote the band Little Red a song to conjure and Ambulance with three of inspire a warmth and Christmas spirit unrivalled

ing touches to Maybe recent popular hits have This Christmas! and pre- either contained a token Dave Emery, a student
Merlin Helicopter evance to Christmas at

"Looking Air Station Culdrose, in tunes that are played year Cornwall, explained why in, year out as Christmas classics they all have release a song that would festive content in abunbuck the trend of recent dance!" Dave pointed

Ogmore MP praises home heating scheme

OGMORE MP Huw Irranca-Davies was recently invited to the home of Mr and Mrs Bodycombe of Garth, Maesteg, to view improvements made to their house by Warm-Front and Valleys-2-Coast Housing Association.

Christmas

Tree World

Situated on the A48, between

Bonvilston and the five mile

lane turn off

From 1st

December 2010

9.00am til late

Seven Varieties of

Christmas Trees

including...

"Whilst the Bodycombes love their home, it had always been a bit draughty, and the fuel bills would soar in the winter. The old housing stock had served people well, but was very poorly insulated and heated," he

observed. "Thanks to Assemblysponsored funding and the management of Valleys to Coast Housing, their home has now been equipped with solar panels, external wall and roof insulation, a new economy boiler, and the old draughty air bricks have gone!
"As we enter into the

winter months, energy efficiency schemes such

as the home energy efficiency scheme provide heating and insulation

improvements.
"The schemes reduce the prevalence of fuel poverty, ensuring that homes are adequately and affordably heated.

"These schemes make sure residents are free from the health risks posed by living in cold and damp homes--fac-tors known to exacerbate conditions such as circuatory and respiratory disease.

"Improvements to home insulation and energy are not just good for the environment, but also for your home-heat-ing bills," the MP concluded

WE ARE NOW ONLINE!

Log onto www.bridgendtoday.co.uk or www.porthcawl-today.co.uk and read your GEM online!



PREMIUM QUALITY BRANDS AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES

Two floors with a comprehensive display of appliances and accessories. Factory refurbished and brand new appliances in stock.

Built-in ovens, hobs, dishwashers, washing machines, fridge freezers, Range Cookers-gas, electric, LPG and dual fuel in stainless steel and farmhouse styles!



We have a fabulous range of cookware and accessories - everything you need for the perfect Christmas! MANY LOVELY GIFT IDEAS!

SHOP OPEN: Monday - Saturday 9am - 5.30pm; Sunday 10am - 4pm

3A TYNEWYDD ROAD, KING SQUARE, BARRY (opposite new library)

Also large warehouse and showroom at 252 HOLTON ROAD, BARRY (Bassett End)

WAREHOUSE OPEN: Monday - Saturday 9am - 5.30pm

All In Stock! - Ready to Go! Same/Next Day Delivery Service!

Full Repair Service and up to 5 years manufacturers warranty

Telephone: 01446 730884 www.1stchoicetrade.co.uk

• TEG Design • James Martin • Jamie Oliver • Frank

Experienced sales staff on you with your



Nordmann Fir, Frazer Fir, Norway Spruce, etc. ш Sizes from 3ft - 18ft. Orders taken in advance for large trees. 2009 Prices Held!

Also available Wreaths, Stands, Pot Grown Trees and Decorations Telephone: 01446 **7818**18

A PLAYTIME SURPISE FOR HEOL-Y-CYW YOUNGSTERS!



THERE was widespread disgust when vandals broke into Heol-y-Cyw Primary School earlier this year and wrecked the children's playhouse.

The news certainly shocked Steve Cottingham, whose daughter works in the school with the foundation phase children, and he offered to help.

The result was unveiled at the school when Steve and Graham Hill, the co-directors of

Kingfisher Developments (Wales) Ltd, turned up with the new wooden playhouse

new wooden playhouse.
The school's headteacher,
Lynne Bowen-Jones, told The
GEM: "I would also like to thank
Travis Perkins, of Cardiff, as
they donated £100 towards this
playhouse to support

playhouse to support Kingfisher's donation of £199. "The children were told that they had a very special Christmas present arriving and that if they went outside they their play area! Well, you should have seen their faces! It was a

very special moment for us all!
"Steve had even gone to the
trouble of adding Christmas
lights and tinsel to make the children's discovery even more
exciting!

exciting!

"We are delighted with this special gift, which has really cheered us up after recent sad publicity.

"We are all very appreciative of the kindness shown to our younger pupils." ABOVE: Steve Cottingham and Graham Hill deliver the

Photograph by MANDY THOMAS

playhouse.

(07974 518347) www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk Good Taste'... our speciality!
Finest Indian Restaurant & Take-away

Award Winning Restaurant

Turn a gathering into a party at home ... 15% DISCOUNT on TAKEAWAYS (Minimum 10 persons) CHRISTMAS CHOICES... Indian Selection

and Boxing Day only)
Christmas Day

Traditional Turkey Dinner

Starter: Vegetable Soup, Prawn Cocktail, Garlic Mushroom, Lamb Chop, Vegetable Sprin Roll, Salmon Steak.

Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Chip Potatoes, Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding, Pan fried fresh Salmon Fillet, Roast Chicken.

> Christmas pudding, Cheescake, Coffee & Mints.

Four Courses £25 (Christmas Day & Boxing Day only) 12 noon - 8pm

SUNDAY BUFFET 12 noon - 11pm. 21 dishes only £7.95 Children £4.95

Throughout December all customers can enjoy complimentary glass of champagne

Friday and Saturday General Menu Applies

Y and

Food Hygiene Rated Scores* on the doors.

Pictor YEAR! Food Standards Agency Supported Scheme 70 Eastgate, COWBRIDGE 101446 771682 - 774590 Open 7 days - 5.30pm - 11.30pm (Including Bank Holidays)

We welcome your news and views – if you have a story to tell, email us at: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk



PULLING POWER OF THE GEM!

Hundreds enter our latest competitions



Mrs Williams receives her luxury hamper, courtesy of Chris White of Waitrose store, Barry.

IN the last few weeks, literally hundreds of people have entered GEM competitions. with the latest lucky winner being Mrs Doreen Williams from Llantwit Major.

Mrs Williams won a luxury Waitrose hamper full of

Christmas goodies. She said: "It was a lovely surprise - more so because I'd forgotten that I'd entered!"

Mrs Williams plans to have her family around for the Christmas Day meal and now has a few little extras to share.

GEM advertising executive Jan

Irving said: "The response to the Waitrose competition was amazing. We had well over 100 people who entered - not just from the Vale and Bridgend, but also from Cardiff and the Valleys.

"Our other competition prize, for a meal for two in the Beech Tree Inn at Culverhouse Cross, also drew more than 100 entries.

The winner of the Beech Tree competition was Glynis Lewis, from Rhoose Point, who told The

"I'm delighted - I never win anything - until now that is!"

ICON COLIN MEETS HIS

REVIEW by **PHILIP IRWIN**

THE former world record holder for the 110-metre hurdles, Colin Jackson, has always had strong connections with the Vale and, The GEM reported recently, he has just written his first book on athletics.

It was launched last Friday in Cowbridge, and profits from the venture are going to the 'Moses Project' – an educational project link-Ysgol Iolo

Morganwg in Cowbridge with a Masai community in Kenya.

Now, some charity books are thrown together in a hurry, and can be pretty slim volumes, so the most important thing to get across is that this book, entitled My Sporting Icons, is a substantial piece of work, featuring thorough interviews with 12 great sporting figures - all athletes

Sports fans, particularly those interested in the psychology of com-petition, will find plenty

to ponder, not least because Colin Jackson has an analytical mind and he wants to compare his own thought processes under pressure with others who were at the

top of their game.

Among the 12 are
David Hemery, Fatima Whitbread, Don Quarrie, Daley Thompson, Kriss Akabusi (it's hard to stop him talking!) and Oscar Pastorius, and all have plenty to say.

Every conversation brings up something unexpected. He and Sally Gunnell compare the various injuries that they picked up, and I was certainly unaware that Jackson had needed seven knee operations during his career – and they worry about rugby players getting injured at the moment!

The book launch was in Oscars in Cowbridge, and when I arrived, Colin Jackson was nowhere to be seen.

It turned out that he had been hijacked by Strictly Come Dancing fans, asking for his thoughts on who would win this year.

For the record, he was undecided, but correctly predicted that Gavin Henson had gone as far as he could.

He still looks disgustingly fit and, when I asked if any of his sport-ing icons had 'gone to

Colin Jackson, pictured at his book launch with some of his Cowbridge fans! (Photograph by Aliye Mullen).

the road to Barry

Island was closed

November 20 and

I was travelling by

bus on December 2, and

the passengers were set

down by the Ship Hotel. This was an incon-

venience to me and the

other passengers, as we

Island in cold, falling

had to walk across to the

snow - but I realise that

Cardiff Bus were doing

their best to keep a serv-

As we walked by the

emergency services were hard at work doing a dif-

accident site, all the

ice running.

again on Thursday,

Saturday,

December 2.

for several hours on

seed' he thought long and hard and said "none".

Apparently, David Hemery and Don Quarrie still weigh the same as when they were in their prime, while Fatima Whitbread has shed all the muscle that she needed for javelin throwing.

Many of them are still competing – Steve Backley on rowing machines, and Sally Gunnell over 10k races.

Whether you are an aspiring athlete or an armchair sports fan, you will find things to surprise or enlighten you..
A good cause - and a good Christmas read!

My Sporting Icons is published by Red Shoes Productions Ltd and is on sale at local bookshops and is due to be

listed by Amazon.

Island access: call for risk assessment ficult job in very upset-AS you reported,

ting circumstances My understanding is that when the gates were placed on Battery Hill, the Island residents were promised by ABP that in an emergency, these gates would be opened

to provide access.

I believe there should be a risk assessment, led by the Vale Council, who should invite repre-sentatives of Island residents and traders, the emergency services, Cardiff Bus and APB to look at ways of reducing the risks and inconvenience caused to Island residents, traders and visitors in similar situations

Bob Bowyer Barry Island



BRAINT ac anrhydedd oedd derbyn gwahoddiad o swyddogion Ysbyty Barri i ganu i'r Aelod y Cynulliad Jane Hutt ar yr 13 Rhagfyr. Roedd Mrs Hutt, y gweinidog dros Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cynulliad Cymru, yn ymweld â'r ysbyty a'i chleifion. Diolchodd Mrs Hutt, i'r plant

am eu canu swynol. It was with great pleasure that the choir from Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc accepted the request from officials in Barry Hospital to sing for the Assembly Minister Jane Hutt on Monday, December 13.

Mrs Hutt, the Minister for Education, Children and Young People at the Welsh Assembly Government was visiting the hospital and patients. She commented on the children's excellent singing



the yellow VFM signs.

Set your sat nav to

CF63 2XA

FULL SELECTION OF BBQ MEAT PACKS • BACON • SAUSAGES • PORK • BEEF • ETC

OPEN 7 DAYS

Monday to Saturday 7.30am - 5.30pm Sunday 9.00am - 2.00pm

Musical Ideas for Chris Electric Guitar Kits from £149 Guitar EFX Pedals Guitar Stands 3/4 Classical Guitars Kits from £54.95

Quality Acoustic Guitars HUGE range of Guitar Strings Guitar Bags & Cases Full Size Drum Kits from £279 Guitar Amplifiers 10 Easy Lessons Learn to Play Books with DVD The BIGGEST range of Audio & AV Leads in the Vale. Guitar Parts & Accessories Radio Microphones Mic Stands PA Amplifiers Speakers Audio Mixers Microphones

Expert In Shop Guitar Repair Service by our own 'Guitar Techie' Expert Knowledge & Help from our friendly staff

267 Holton Road, Barry Weston Hill End of Holton Road - 01446 722711



WHAT U WANT - WHEN U WANT 01633 214710

Budget Accounts Boiler Service available web: www.stephensfueloil.co.uk

Auction helps out the YFC!



PHOTOGRAPH by HEATHER MARCH

WICK Young Farmers Club's coffers were boosted by an auction held at Colwinston Hall.

Amid much hilarity, auctioneer Hopkin Joseph of Watts and Morgan sold items kindly donated by sponsors. Club chairman Howy Evans had a busy evening acting as porter.

Police 'Operation Blitzen' aims to make town safer

OPERATION visiting the town centre BLITZEN' saw the during the day time, start of a Christmas whether shopping, workcampaign for a safer Bridgend by

South Wales Police.
A spokesman reported that it has already proved to be effective with four people arrested in its first few days.

Bridgend area who was and to deter potential arrested on suspicion of offenders," he said. the theft of a purse with-in minutes of the offence

from Porthcawl and a 27arrested on suspicion of the theft of a charity collection box – again within a short time of the

offence being committed. "The aim of the camcentre is to provide reassurance and a friendly effective and when they face for all those who are are most needed."

ing or going out for a celebratory lunch.

"Neighbourhood Police Officers will be carrying out high visibility foot patrols in the main shopping areas in order to increase public Among these was a a declaration of the added support to retailers provide

Bridgend Neighbourhood Police being committed.

A 25-year-old man said: "I want to reassure year-old woman from Bridgend were both to Christman who wisits everyone who visits to Christmas - whether they are a visitor, shopper or a trader - that we will be aiming to ensure that the Neighbourhood

Policing Team is visible paign in Bridgend town and on patrol at times when they will be most

PLEA FOR NEW **OWNERS AS** CAT CRISIS HITS BRIDGEND

THE GEM reported recently that the Cat Protection League cattery in Bryncethin was full with 215 cats in residence, and a waiting list of twice that many who will be taken in as and when space become available.

Now, a small local animal charity has reported that it is also struggling to cope with the number of cats it

Maesteg Animal Welfare Society has two catteries which between them have 50 cats and kittens. In its last financial year, the charity spent £38,000 looking after and rehoming hundreds of cats. At one time, it had as many as

70 cats on its books.

"We had cats up to our ears," said co-ordinator Maureen Edwards. "We have had to cut back from that simply because of the expense. It was costing us £140 a day, seven days a week and the bills soon mount up, especially as we neuter all males and often have to pay for veterinary treatment for them as well.'

The charity is appealing for new owners to come forward to give homes to some of the cats it has

"All our cats are young, healthy adults," she said. "We have them in all sizes and colours a bit like that lady in the old BT adverts who wanted a new dress.

There should be something to suit everyone.

Mrs Edwards said that if people could not offer home themselves, the charity would be grateful to accept sponsorship or donations towards the cost of keeping the cats.

"If we can get a cat paid for, it means we can afford to take in another one. We still have a little space available, but our problem is having the necessary funding.

"We also take in dogs for re-homing and help people with vets' bills, so our resources are fully stretched."

In all, the charity spent £83,000 last year, including the overheads on its two shops in Maesteg and Nantymoel which raise almost all the money it needs to survive. The shops are manned entirely by volunteers and the society has no paid staff.

Maureen added that the society was doing its best to plug the gap left by CPL which cannot cope with any more cats.

The situation is desperate. This cold weather means that stray cats, who normally fend for themselves, are now trying to get homes by turning up on people's doorsteps.

"Sometimes, people will take them in and keep them but often they are unable to and that's where we come in.

Anyone able to take one of the society's cats or offer sponsorship should ring Jan on 01656 721496.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST BRIDES MAJOR Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan

(01656) 880418

semi-finals in Strictly Come Dancing and we now look forward to seeing him once

again on the rugby field. Well done,

ST BRIDES MAJOR Church in Wales Primary

classes of the school, and the costumes were

achieve three successful evenings.

School held its Christmas concerts this past week.

A very professional show it was, from the three

superb. Parents and staff must have worked hard to

FRIENDS of the Heritage Coast held their annual A–Z raffle at the centre on December 5.

It was very successful, followed by mince pies

and a much appreciated cup of coffee and tea on a

THE Poppy collection this year made a total of

£673, a fine effort. Thank you to the organiser

annual lunch at the Fox and Hounds on December

The raffle of a lovely basket of Christmas goodies was won by the oldest member of the party, Iris

and all who gave so generously.
THE Saturday morning 'tea and chat' held their

4, and lots of photographs were taken.

FOR the first time for a number of years, a

CONGRATULATIONS to Gavin Henson, our local boy, on reaching the

Wick gets together to talk about the management of Monks Wood

well-attended meeting of people interested in Monks Wood

was held on Friday, November 19, at the Sports Pavilion, Wick.
It was held on the

10th anniversary of the planting of Monks Wood by Wick villagers, and involved a representative from the Woodland Trust, who own and manage the wood.

The meeting dis-cussed the future development and managemen

of the Wood.

It is possible that money might be avail-

A VERY successful, able to improve the pond to ensure that it holds plant trees in the wood plant tree plant trees in the wood water all year and attracts more wildlife.

It may be possible for the road entrance to the Wick School is interwood to be made more ested in the wood and educational resources may be available. Local disability-friendly.

If you would like to be

kept up to date with the villagers and other peo-

The meeting was part-funded by Wick Community Council and we are very grateful for their support. GEORGE JEFFERY

Lottery cash goes to Parc

PARC prison, Bridgend has been awarded £48,918 Lottery funding to develop its 'Invisible Walls' project, which works with offenders and their families to help prevent

private as ships. The scheme will go on to reonementally debt, training and education, housing and support, see intensive support and support and support as see intensive support and sup employment and physical health and fitness.

families to help prevent re-offending.

The money will fund a explained: "On average, development plan and voluntary, statutory and male offender for a year

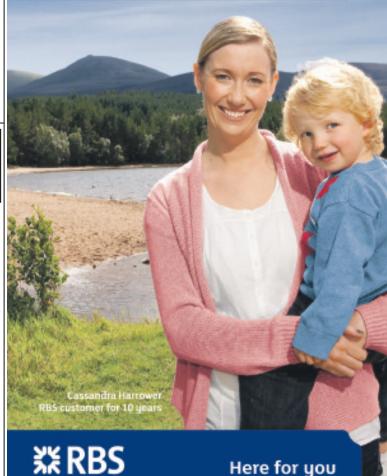
private sector partner- in a local prison and an ships. The scheme estimated 60 per cent

provided to prisoners and their families both inside prison and after release to help with resettlement and to curb the destructive cycle of reoffend-

Our Financial Planning Managers help you look after your money, so you can look after your family.

As a working mother Cassandra struggles to find time to plan her finances That's why she spoke to a Financial Planning Manager who gave her sound advice for the future - without obligation. So now she can rest in the knowledge that her money and son are taken care of.

To arrange a financial planning appointment, visit your local branch, or call 0800 210 0234



SOUTHERNDOWN WI NEWS

Christmas carols and a testing Eggheads quiz!

SoutherndownWI members met on a cold, icy night for the last meeting of 2010, when numbers were small but the hall was warm and welcoming!

President Rhiannon Gaen greeted everyone and kept business to a minimum, before she presented members with a quiz, which included questions from the TV show Eggheads.

Southerndown may not have excelled but it

did pass with credit. Health and safety rules were brought to attention, courtesy of a mod-ern interpretation of Christmas carols.

A lucky dip exchange of presents took place and party fare was supplied by the committee
– mulled wine was on

concerned.

Before the close, the president read out the vidual). This appeared after some recounts, a conclusion was reached.

Westminster have such earlier over student tuition fees?

will take place at monthly meeting is on January 13, 2011, at 7.15pm in St Brides Major church hall.

No speaker is booked, so members are invited to speak for themselves!

offer! Thanks to all

six resolutions for 2011 (only one vote per indito give some members too much choice but

Did the coalition at problems a few hours

The New Year lunch Southerndown golf club on January 20. Next

Christmas tree has been erected on Bull Hill, St Brides Major (near the monument). It is hoped (weather permitting), to sing carols around the tree, before going on to the Fox and Hounds for a hot

A HAPPY Christmas and peaceful New Year to BM the staff and readers of The GEM.

n 1808 die G. G.C. Call centre aper hours Mon-Thurs Sam-Byrn, Fri. Barv. - Apre. Sac. Harn-Syn. The Royal Basis of Scotland pic. Registered of No. 180312. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Syswe, Dileburgh CN12 19Q, Authorised and registed by the Financial Services Authority.

Taking a wider view of Porthcawl's seafront!



This striking image of Porthcawl's seafront, from the Seabank to the lifeboat station, was taken by Malcolm Nugent, using the latest panoramic photographic techniques. Malcolm told The GEM: "The image is made up of 12 photographs, digitally overlayed, and was taken as the sun was setting". The photograph places Esplanade Hotel (aka the 'bottle bank') prominently upfront – something that will surely appeal to the building's many local fans!

Scope fayre highlights work of charity

SCOPE recently held its annual Christmas favre and coffee morning at The Rees Centre in Kenfig Hill.

People turned up o very cold and wet Saturday to support the disabled people who

attend the centre.
On sale were gifts, cards, and home made cakes. There were games and raffles and, of course, Santa was also there to have his photograph taken with the children.

Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon attended, and it was a very happy event, in spite of the weather, said the manager of the centre, Lynda Francis:

"We at Scope believe that disabled people should have the same opportunities as every-

one else.
"The staff, volunteers and project members would like to thank their supporters and wish them all a very merry
Christmas and a Happy
New Year". she added.

To find out more

about Scope's work, go to www.scope.org.uk

Photos by MANDY THOMAS (Available for purchase telephone 07974 518347)

These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk





Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon enjoys a joke with one of the stall-holders.

James **Tudor** lands royal winner COWBRIDGE'S James Tudor rode his first winner of the 2010/11 point-to-point season when scoring on Alan Hill's Start Royal in the men's open race at the Cambridge University United Hunts meeting at

Cottenham on Sunday, writes Brian Lee. Start Royal, owned and trained by Alan Hill, was well backed at 5-4 in a field of

Red Watch, a nine-year-old brown gelding owned and trained by Luke Price, and qualified with the Taf Fechan Hunt, took the restricted race at the Cornwall Hunt Club meeting at Wadebridge under Wales's Jodie Hughes.

Red Watch went off the 9-4 favourite.





Ambulance

(December 12).

A police spokesman said: "The collision

occurred between an ambulance and a blue

Vauxhall Zafira at the

Talbot Road, at approximately 3.22pm.
"The 32 year-old driver of the Vauxhall sus-

tained injuries, which were not life threatening. and was admitted to the

The police are appealing for witnesses who should telephone

101, or crimestoppers

free on 0800 555 111.

Royal Glamorgan

Hospital.

A119 junction with



There was plenty on offer at the fayre.







FILTRATION SYSTEMS pH, UV, IRON. MANGANESE REMOVAL **NITRATE, LIMESCALE HARNESS**

- Complete Borehole Water Systems
- Rainwater Harvesting
 Sewage Systems & Treatment
- Solar for Dairy Hot Water Systems
 Tanks from 300 gallons to 10,000 gallons
- Dirty Water Systems
- Parlour Washdown Systems

PRICE AND SERVICE OUR PRIORITY

Tel: 01994 448310; Fax: 01994 448693 allpumpservices@btconnect.com www.allpumpservices.co.uk



AVAILABLE FROM 7th DECEMBER - 1st JANUARY



LINDENANS IMS 69.25 E&J GALLO WAS £6.29

WOLF BLASS EAGLE HAWK SHIRAZ, MERLOT, CHARDONNAY I LINDEMANS WIWEMAKERS RELEASE CHARDONNAY, SHIRAZ CAB, CHEN BLAWC CHARDONNAY, CAB SAUV / ERJ GALLO FK CAB SAUV, CHARDONNAY, CHEMIN BLANC, RUBY CAB, RED ZIWFANDEL SV / BLOSSOM HILL RED, WHITE

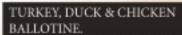
WELSH RIB OF BEEF.

A HAND PREPARED, MATURED ON THE BONE SUCCULENT AND RICH IN FLAVOUR, THIS TENDER RIB OF BEEF WILL SUIT ANY OCCASION. READY TO COOK.

ONLY

SUCCULENT TOPSIDE BEEF JOINT.

A PREMIUM CUT OF WELSH BEEF, MATURED THEN DE BONED TO AID THAT EASY TO CARVE AND MELT-IN-THE-MOUTH



AN EASY-TO-CARVE, SUCCULENT JOINT WITH LAYERS OF TURKEY, DUCK AND CHICKEN WRAPPED ABOUND A SEASONAL STUTTING TO SUITE YOUR FAMILIES TASTES. FINISHED WITH A LAYER OF LIGHTLY SMOKED STRIPS OF BACON. SERVES 6-8 PERSONS, READY TO COOK



PREPARED TURKEY CROWN. A-MELT-IN-THE-MOUTH FRESHLY PRE-PARED TURKEY BREAST CROWN. BEAUTIFULLY WRAPPED IN LIGHTLY

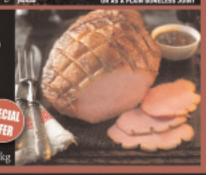
SMOKED BACON ACCOMPANIED BY SUCCULENT MINI SAUSAGES, FINISHED WITH A VARIETY OF STUFFINGS TO SUIT YOUR FAMILIES TASTES. READY TO COOK

ONLY



DRIED CURED PREMIUM

GAMMON JOINT. A FRESH HORSESHOE GAMMON SCORED TO



FRESH CHICKEN BREAST PARCELS.

MADE OF THE MOST TENDER BREAST MEAT, WRAPPED IN A MOUTH WATERING LIGHTLY SMOKED BACON, VARIETIES INCLUDE: CREAM CHEESE FILLING / GARLIC AND HERB CREAM CHEESE / FESTIVE CRANBERRY





(01446) 792286

ALL PICTURES ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY, ALL MEATS ARE PREPARED READY FOR COOKING

VISIT FILCO BRANCHES AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: LLANTWIT MAJOR / COWBRIDGE / NORTH CORNELLY / SARN / TAIBACH / TALBOT GREEN / BRYNTIRION / CAERAU

Out and About with **The**

Choir and band join in the festive spirit at annual concert

RAF Athan Voluntary Band, with together large and enthusiastic congregation, provided a fitting welcome to the spirit of Christmas at the choir's annual Christmas concert held at St Mary's Church, Barry, on December 4.

Invited guests includ-Barnardo's ed Jane Hutt AM. Alun Cairns MP, Mr and Mrs Colin Osborne, the Mayor and Mayoress of the Vale and Mr Karl account of the vital support still needed by many immensely by all. young people in the com-munity whose lives and opportunities were very Kuhnell, Mayor of Barry with his consort, Mrs Meryl Kuhnell. limited.

THE RECTORIAL BENEFICE

OF LLANTWIT MAJOR

Llantwit Major, St Donats, Wick, Marcross,

Monknash, Llanmaes, Llanmihangel, St Athan & Gileston

wishes you a blessed Christmas and joyful New Year

All are warmly welcome at any of our services this Christmas

16.00pm

18.00pm

18.30pm

23.15pm

23.30pm

23.30pm

23.30pm

8.15am

8.30am

9.30am

9.30am

10.00am

This year's fundrais-ing concert was in aid of

CHRISTMAS EVE

St James, Wick

St Illtud's, Llantwit Major

St Illtud's, Llantwit Major

St Illtud's, Llantwit Major

St Cattwg, Llanmaes

St Mary, Monknash

St Tathan, St Athan

CHRISTMAS DAY

St Giles, Gileston

St James, Wick

St Tathan, St Athan

Holy Trinity, Marcross

St Michael, Llanmihangel

St Illtud, Llantwit Major

St Donat

St Illtud's, Llantwit Major



Cymru, Band, conducted by Alan whose representative, Iris Bourne, provided a var-Williams, gave a moving ied high quality recital, which enjoyed

The Barry Male Voice Choir, inspired by musical director Dorothy The RAF Voluntary Connell, and accompa-

Crib Service

Christingle Service

Ecumenical Carols

Midnight Eucharist

Midnight Eucharist

Midnight Eucharist

Midnight Eucharist

Eucharist

Eucharist

Eucharist

Eucharist

Eucharist

Communion

Family Eucharist

Family Eucharist

ABOVE: Barry Male Voice Choir.

songs, the band and choir combined in a memo-rable emotional rendition of 'Benedictus' from the Armed Man, a mass for peace composed by Carl Jenkins.

The choir continue come. their fundraising in the community with a full programme of concerts at 7.30pm.

Emma Arscott, per-formed with feeling and they will be singing with the audience at As well as traditional Wetherspoon's

> The choir will restart practice on Thursday, January 6, at Holy Trinity Church Hall Trinity Street, Barry, where any one interested in joining will be made very wel-

Porthceri fayre

THE Porthceri Centre rounds off the year with a Christmas fayre this Saturday (December 18) at 2pm, which will be opened by 'local boy' Peter Karrie.

There will be plenty of opportunities to buy lastminute stocking fillers, relax with a tea. coffee and homemade cakes, and enjoy the exhibitions provided by Baruc Art Group and Positive Image Photographic Society.

Photography experts from PIPS will also be give ing demonstrations throughout the afternoon of digital techniques you can easily do at home with your

To add to what promises to be an afternoon with a real buzz, well-known local belly dance group, the Desert Divas, will also be displaying their hypnotic

The Portheeri Centre will look particularly festive against the backdrop of the Victorian street scene, which was used for the recent smash hit Pukka show

Voluntary band in full swing for Christmas

AFTER performances in St free) and available from Chris Davies Bridgend, Penarth, Llantwit Major, Barry and Cowbridge, RAF St Athan Voluntary Band are in full swing as they head towards Saturday's Family Christmas concert at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School Hall at 2.30pm.

Joining the band will be Wendy Kupinsky (soprano), Alison Jones (flute) and Sian Pickett (narrator). There'll be carols, readings, instrumental pieces, sing-a-long items as well as the best of the band's extensive Christmas repertoire.
Tickets are £5 (under-14s admitted

Estate Agent, Llantwit Major, or telephone 01446 798527.

The band will also be performing at St Tathan Church tomorrow (Friday, December 17) at 7.30pm and at the Four Bells, St Athan this Sunday, from

8pm.
The Youth Band will be supporting carol singing at the Gathering Place on Monday, December 20, at 6pm. Everyone is very welcome at all these

"RAF St Athan Voluntary Band would like to thank all who supported their Christmas events, and would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and health, success and happiness for 2011," said director Alan Bourne.

WHAT'S ON - in brief

Rotary sleigh SANTA and his helpers join the Dinas Powys Rotary Club this week-

Sunnveroft.

December 19; 4pm-6.30pm, Eastbrook Millbrook Heights.

Lucky winners!

run on December 2 with Skin Studio of Penarth.

The winners, who each win a £50 voucher to spend in the studio, are: Mrs P Williams of Bridgend; Mrs SB Mace of Llanbethery; Ceri James of Barry; and Vera Morgans of

(December 19) at 4pm,

ing of Christmas at the

The collection taken

at the service will sup-

port Welsh children in

Introduced by the

Children's Society 30

now a popular family

event

world

welcome.

years ago, Christingle is

Each child receives

an orange, representing the world, four cocktail

sticks containing fruits and sweets for the four

seasons, and a lighted

candle, symbolising
Jesus as the light of the

The traditional serv-

ice of carols, midnight Mass and blessing of the

Christmas crib is at 11pm on Christmas Eve.

ing, there will be carols,

Mass at 10am. Everyone

a procession and sung

On Christmas morn-

poor circumstances.

for families and chil-dren, heralds the com-Barry church of St Paul's.

December 17; 6pm-7.30pm, Southra

December 18; 4pm 6.30pm, Murch Valley

December 20; 6pm-

30pm, Sully. Christingle at St Paul's A CHRISTINGLE service, this Sunday

THERE were four lucky winners of The GEM's competition

Candlelit concert in **Ewenny**

THE Vale of Glamorgan Ensemble will be performing their annual Christmas concert by candlelight at the Priory Church, Ewenny tomorrow (Friday, December 17).

Music will include the Corelli Christmas Concerto and two pieces by Vivaldi, the Cello Concerto in A Minor with soloist Nicola Thomas, formerly of the London Mozart Players, and the Four Seasons, with WNO violinist and Ensemble leader Donald McNaught directing.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets, including mulled wine and mince pies, are available at the door, or

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

BRYNGARW Country Park, has a costumes will tell the hectic festive diary with Father Christmas; playing different characters, from a Christmas, story-servant to the lady of the telling, live music house, as they prepare for the festive season.

Admission and car black free there will

swing boats, coconut shy, traditional hot chestnuts, mulled wine, live music from Solid Brass, barrel organ and mince pies. There will also be a spe-cial visit from Father Actors in Victorian

parking is free, there will be a charge for rides and On December 10-1 of a confidence of the following from 10am-5pm, there is a selection of Victorian details call 01656 725155 or email: bryn-wark@bridgend.gov .uk

On December 21. enjoy outdoor traditional Christmas carols on the lawn in front of Bryngarw House at 8pm, cial visit from Father accompanied by Solid Christmas from 12pm- Brass. Free admission and car parking.

The Red Lion Bonvilston FESTIVE LUNCH/DINNER - 3 Courses £9.50/£12.50 Special BOXING DAY Lunch

NEW YEAR'S EVE - Reservations Hot Buffet and Disco - Tickets £5 SUNDAY LUNCH from £5.95: 12 noon-4pm 01446 781208 On the Cow

Who's looking after the animals this Christmas?

Tel: 01446 772171 Mob: 0787 259 7293



has last minute vacancies for the festive season. First come first served for our canine guests

Cat Visiting Still Available

Why not give us a ring to discuss your needs? A fully licenced, CRB checked and insured service

Now stocking quality British-made dog coats and accessories at online prices

where caring comes first! Annie's Pampered Pets

8 Downs View, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7HF email: anne@anniespamperedpets.co.uk
www.anniespamperedpets.co.uk



Celebrate New Year 2011 with us... FREE DISCO

Dinner Restaurant, normal menu Restaurant and bar meals served until 8.30pm (Booking essential)

Always a popular choice - Relax with us soon... Call 01656 880224 Wick Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SE



Developing people through lifelong career planning

Looking for advice on learning and careers? We can help, whatever your age or situation

- Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale is responsible for the delivery of:

 The statutory Careers Service (Youth Guidance Services), Youth
 Gateway and Education Gateway
- Cardiff and Vale Education Business Partnership (EBP)
 Adult Guidance Services
 The Learning and Careers Advice helpline in Wales

Careers Wales Here to help you!

Work taster scheme helps employers recruit



Chef Tony Jenkins (left) with Keri Cash (centre) and Daniel Dredge (right), employees at Chef's Kitchen following their successful work tester placements.

An initiative developed by Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale is helping employers recruit young people not in education, employment or training. The Work Taster Scheme provides employers with the opportunity to assess a candidate's suitability over a two week period before committing to a full time contract.

Employment adviser, Adrian Cole, explained: "The Work Taster Scheme enables young people to prove their potential to employers. It also gives employers time to decide whether a person is suited to the job on offer. During the placement the young person is paid an allowance from Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale."

Work tasters proved a great success for Keri Cash and Daniel Dredge, both of Cardiff, who secured full time jobs

with Chef's Sandwich, a company supplying sandwiches, wraps and salads to local coffee shops, bars and restaurants.

Keri and Daniel had both found it difficult to find work and turned to Careers Wales for help. After two week placements at Chef's Sandwich they were both offered full time employment.

Chef Tony Jenkins, awner of the business, said: "Keri and Daniel were able to demonstrate their interest and commitment to the company during the work taster and we were very pleased to offer them employment. The Work Taster Scheme is an excellent way for young people to find out whether a job suits them and for employers to fill vacancies which become available."

Careers advice leads to new business

Donna Ovenstone, a working mum of four, contacted Careers Wales last year to discuss a change of career. Following a discussion with information assistant Judith Elliott - Butcher and an interview with careers adviser Gill Evans, Donna successfully applied for the HND course in Beauty and Spa Management at Coleg Morgannwg in Pontypridd.

Donna is now in her second year of the course after passing the first year with flying colours. She has also recently started her own beauty business called Kardia Beauty at X-Cell Hair Company in Morganstown, Cardiff.

Donna said: "I'd like to thank Judith and Gill for the help they gave me. Without their advice none of this would have happened."

Improvements to our services

- During 2010 we refurbished our Careers Centre at 53 Charles Street. Cardiff to provide more interviewing space and improve the reception area for customers.
- · We have re-organised our teams to ensure a more co-ordinated system for customers accessing our services.
- · We are continuing to develop a multi-agency approach to supporting young people not in education, employment or training by hosting a mental health services worker from the Health Service, counsellors from Action for Children, housing officers from Housing Options (Cardiff Council and Housing Associations) and a member of staff from Cardiff Council Social Care Services at our Youth Gateway Centre in Cardiff.

Check out our website www.careerswales.com

If you want to talk to an adviser you can call our national Learning and Careers Advice helpline 0800 900 100 (if calling from a mobile please telephone 029 2090 6801)

If you want to speak to an adviser face to face you can drop in ar phone to make an appointment at one of our centres.

Careers Centre, 53 Charles Street, Cardiff CF10 2GD Tel: 029 2090 6700

Careers Centre, 49 Holton Road, Barry CF63 4HF Tel: 01446 410600

Young people in full time education can arrange to see their careers adviser at their school or callege.



If you want to talk to an adviser you can call our national Careers Learning and Careers Advice helpline 0800 100 900 (if calling from a mobile please telephone 029 2090 6801)



Pupils from St Cuthbert's RC Primary School, Cardiff find out more about construction engineering at Cardiff Bay.

All aboard for a lesson with a difference

Nearly 800 Year 6 pupils from local primary schools recently took time out to find out more about the regeneration of Cardiff Bay.

Co-ordinated by the EBP, the pupils enjoyed a guided tour on the Water Bus to view the Barrage and the buildings, old and new, around the Bay. During the trip the pupils were given a presentation, including contributions by representatives from local construction engineering companies including Dean and Dyball, BAM Nuttall, Carillion Civil Engineering, ERH Communications, Alun Griffiths Contractors Ltd, Britannia Construction Ltd, Raymond Brown and Walters UK Ltd. The pupils also complete work sheets during the tour and their teachers build on what they have learnt with further activities back in the classroom.

The positive impact of this activity is evidenced from teachers' comments including: "it opened the eyes of pupils, especially girls, to the possibility of working in the construction industry" and "good science materials link for the classroom."

Redundancy offers new opportunity

Redundancy for gas service engineer David Fulton provided him with the opportunity to achieve his goal of setting up his own business.

Having previously worked in the security industry, David saw a gap in the market and the idea of Glamorgan Guard Dogs was born. David had heard about ReAct funding, a scheme set up by the Welsh Assembly Government to help retrain individuals who are newly redundant and he contacted Careers Wales for help. Careers adviser William McCarthy Informed him of a course available with R and 5 Training in Welshpool in general purpose security dog handling. He also received information about becoming self employed.

David said: "Following the training I was able to set up my awn business and so far it's going very well. We have undertaken security work at various events including the Royal Welsh Show and the Ryder Cup. I've also recently agreed a contract with a haulage company."

AMs visit Careers Wales

Local Assembly Members from all parties were recently invited to the Careers Centres in Cardiff and Barry to update their knowledge about the role of Careers Wales in helping young people and adults achieve their potential.

Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale of Glamorgan and Minister for Budget and Business, visited the Careers Centre and Youth Gateway Centre in Barry. Writing in the Glamorgan Gem she said: "I was privileged to meet some of the young people who were now enjoying steady employment or succeeding in college. They were motivated and they said the one to one support they received at the Gateway was pivotal in making the breakthrough in their lives.

"I also met a group of adults who had been made redundant, with the impact of the recession all too clear. They were all making their way into new careers and jobs and were highly complimentary about the impact of Careers Wales engagement."

Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale wins awards

- For the second year running Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale received an award from Cardiff Leaving Care for the company's commitment to supporting young people who have spent time in care.
- Careers achisers Mike Davies and Barbara Price received Partner of Excellence Awards
- from Jobcentre Plus for the support they offer customers alongside Jobcentre Plus staff in Cardiff, Penarth and Barry.
- Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale recently achieved the Investors in People (IIP) Silver Award along with the IIP Leadership and Management Award.

We value your opinions. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about our services please contact:

Avril Jackson, Marketing manager, Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale, 53 Charles Street, Cardiff CF10 2GD Tet 029 2090 6700 or email avril.iackson@cardiffandvale.ora.uk







How we did in 2009/2010

Support for students in secondary and further education in Cordiff and the Vale of Glomorgan		Achieve- ment	N ogeknit target
Interviews.		15/412	120%
Moving Forward Plans.		11,528	105%
Group sessions.		2,005	109%
Young people taking part in Education Gateway, a motivational gragature for 14-16 year olds and young people in college.		688	106%
Young people receiving mentoring sup- part from Education Gateway advisers.	Interviews Group sessions	2.255 994	133% 105%
Work with young people with a State- ment of Special Educational Need.	Interviews Transition Reviews Moving Forward Plans Learning and Skills Plans Group sessions	1,050 552 832 172 48	153% 104% 103% 115% 120%
Number of young people who received support for an education business activity.	Primary schools Secondary schools	21,925 29,740	N/A 100%
Number of work experience placements arranged.	14-16 year olds 16-19 year olds	5,942 1,027	N/A N/A
Number of young people taking part in business and enterprise.	12-16 year olds 16-19 year olds	8.276 2.146	N/A N/A
Number of young people receiving employer support for mentioning and inclinidual goal setting.		1,862	NA
Number of young people involved in setting up small business projects with employer support.	12-19 year olds	5,505	NA
Number of young people participating in employer supported curriculum delivery/slevelopment activities.		23,290	NA

Support for schools and colleges

Corees Wates Contiff and Vale works closely with teachers and lectures to ensure pupils and students necessary high quality coreen education and guidance. During the year 35 training events were organised involving 17.3 backers and accordant part. In addition 413 primary and secondary activation teachers and callege lectures were helped to find placements with employers 93.5 % against target.

Support for parents and guardians Surveys have found that parents and carers are the biggest influence on the career decisions of their children.

Discussions with poweris.	3,301	N/A
Parents evenings attended.	100	M/A
Mailings to parents of students in Years 7, 9, 10, 11 & 12.	28,766	N/A
Support for young people who have left full time education		
Interviews by coreces advisers at our Centres.	2.725	113%
Interviews by covers advises with young people with a Statement of Special Educational Need.	304	NIA
Interviews by placing assistants.	3,619	100%
Written outcomes of guidance.	3,086	251X
Number of young people placed in Youth Gateway.	536	97%
Number of young people placed into employment,	283	NO.
Number of young people placed into week-based training.	1,648	NIA
Interviews with young people on Youth Gateway.	5.820	110%
Moving Parward Plans for young people on Youth Gabrway.	1,041	99%
Group sessions for young people on Youth Gateway.	4.807	93%

Youth Cateway is run by Careen Wales Cardiff and Yole and provides extra help for young people who are ensure-what to dis after leaving school or college or who are finding it difficult to find the light approximate.

In addition the Cardiff Learning Coach Team, funded by Cymorth Cymru and Cardiff 16-19 Network: is based at Cardiff 16-09 Network; Societies and youth workers have been trained as Learning Cardina to help hardest to reach 18-18 year olds access education, training and employment. Careers advisers are also based with the Youth Offending Services in Cardiff and the Yole to help young proople who have offended engage in effection. Staining or employment.

Support for adults		
Interviews by coreen advisers	6,550	114K
Of which: Adults interviewed who were unemployed.	2,313	N/A
Adults: interviewed under notice of redundancy, including those supported under flerics.	2453	N/A
Intreviews by information assistants.	3,106	104%
Written outcomes of guidance.	7,316	105%
Graup sessions.	115	115%

Learning and Careers Advice national helpline 0800 100 900

Last year 35,041 calls and 1,407 emails to the helpline were received from across Wales.

Working with employers		
Waits to employers.	1,447	82%
Job vacancies notified.	546	N/A
Employers supporting education business activities.	3,521	128%

Careers Woles is funded by the Webih Assembly Government. The cost of our services for the year 1st April 2009 – 31st March 2010 was approximately £2.79 per month per household in Cardiff and the Yale of Glamorgan.



Datblygu pobl drwy gynllunio gyrfa gydol oes

Ydych chi'n edrych am gyngor ar ddysgu a gyrfaoedd? Medrwn helpu, beth bynnag yw'ch oedran neu sefyllfa

- Mae Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro yn gyfrifol am ddarparu:
 Y Gwasanaeth Gyrfaoedd statudol (Gwasanaethau Arweiniad Ieuenctid), Porth Ieuenctid a Porth Addysg

- Partneriaeth Addysg Busnes Caerdydd a'r Fro (PAB)
 Gwasanaethau Arweiniad Oedolian
 Uinell Gymorth Cyngor Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd yng Nghymru

Gyrfa Cymru Yma i'ch helpu!

Cynllun blasu swyddi yn helpu cyflogwyr i recriwtio



Y chef Tony Jenkins (chwith) gyda Keri Cash (canal) a Daniel Dredge (ar y dde), a gyflogir yn Chef's Kitchen yn dilyn eu lleoliadau blasu gwaith llwyddiannus.

Mae cynllun a ddatblygwyd gan Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro yn helpu cyflogwyr i recriwtio pobl ifanc heb fod mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant. Mae'r Cynllun Blasu Gwaith yn rhoi cyfle i gyflogwyr asesu os yw ymgeisydd yn addas dros gyfnod o ddwy wythnos cyn ymrwymo i gontract amser-llawn.

Esboniodd Adrian Cole, cynghorydd Cyflogaeth: "Mae'r Cynllun Blasu Gwaith yn galluogi pobl ifanc i brofi eu potensial i gyflogwyr. Mae hefyd yn rhoi amser i gyflogwyr benderfynu os yw person yn addas ar gyfer y swydd dan sylw. Yn ystod y lleoliad mae'r person ifanc yn derbyn Iwfans gan Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro."

Bu cyfleoedd blasu gwaith yn llwyddiannus iawn i Keri Cash a Daniel Dredge, II dau o

Gaerdydd, a sicrhaodd swyddi llawn-arnser gyda Chef's Sandwich, cwmni sy'n cyflenwi brechdanau, rapiau a salads i siopau coffi, bariau a bwytai lleol.

Roedd Keri a Daniel wedi'i chael yn anodd dod o hyd i swydd a daethant at Gyrfa Cymru am help. Cyniglwyd cyflogaeth lawn-amser i'r ddau ohanynt ar ôl lleoliadau dwy wythnas yn Chef's Sandwich.

Dywedodd Tony Jenkins, perchennog y busnes: "Gallodd Keri a Daniel ddangos eu diddordeb a'u hymrwymiad i'r cwmni yn ystod y cyfleoedd blasu gwaith ac roeddem yn falch iawn i gynnig swyddi iddynt. Mae'r Cynllun Blasu Gwaith yn ffordd ardderchog i bobl ifanc ganfod os yw swydd yn addas ar eu cyfer ac i gyflogwyr lenwi swyddi gwag."

Cyngor gyrfa yn arwain at fusnes newydd

Cysylltodd Donna Ovenstone, mam i bedwar, à Gyrfa Cymru y llynedd i drafod newid gyrfa. Yn dilyn trafodaeth gyda'r cymhorthydd gwybodaeth Judith Elliott-Butcher a chyfweliad gyda'r cynghorydd gyrfaoedd, Gill Evans, gwnaeth Donna gais llwyddiannus ar gyfer y cwrs HND mewn Harddwch a Rheolaeth Sba yng Ngholeg Morgannwg ym Mhontypridd.

Mae Donna bellach yn ail flwyddyn ei chwrs ar ôl cwblhau'r flwyddyn gyntaf yn gwbl ddi-drafferth. Mae hefyd yn ddiweddar wedi sefydlu ei busnes ei hun o'r enw Kardia Beauty yn X-Cell Hair Company yn Nhreforgan, Caerdydd.

Dywedodd Donna: "Fe fyddwn i'n hoffi diolch i Judith a Gill am eu help. Fyddai dim o hyn wedi digwydd heb eu help nhw".

Gwelliannau i'n gwasanaeth

- Yn ystod 2010 fe wnaethom adnewyddu ein Canolfan Gyrfaoedd yn 53 Heol Siarl, i roi mwy o afod ar gyfer cyfweliadau a gwella'r dderbynfa i gwsmeriaid.
- Rydym wedi ad-drefnu ein timau i sicrhau system fwy cydlynol ar gyfer cwsmeriaid sy'n cyrchu ein gwasanaethau.
- Rydym yn parhau i ddatblygu dull aml-asiantaeth i gefnogi pobl ifanc heb fod mewn addysg, cyflogaeth neu hyfforddiant drwy letya. gweithiwr gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl a'r Gwasanaeth Lechyd, cwnselwyr o Gweithredu dros Blant, swyddogion o Opslynau Tai (Cyngor Caerdydd a Chymdeithasau Adeiladu) ac aelad o staff Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol Cyngor Caerdydd yn ein Canolfan Porth Ieuenctid yng Nghaerdydd.

Edrychwch ar ein gwefan www.gyrfacymru.com

Os hoffech siarad gyda chynghorydd medrwch fforio ein llinell gymarth genedlaethol Cyngor Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd 0800 900 100 (029 20290 6801 o ffôn symudol).

Os hoffech siarad wyneb yn wyneb gyda chynghorydd medrwch alw heibio neu ffonio i wneud apwyntiad yn un o'n canolfarmau.

Conolfan Gyrlaoedd, 53 Heol Siarl, Caerdydd CF10 2GD Ffârc 029 2090 6700

Canolfan Gyrlacedd, 49 Heal Holton, Y Barri CF63 4HF Ffôr: 01446 410600

Gall pobl ifanc mewn addysg amser-llawn drefnu i weld eu cynghorydd gyrfaoedd yn eu hysgol neu goleg.

Cyngor Gyrfaoedd

Os hoffech siarad gyda chyngharydd medrwch ffonio ein Llinell gymorth genedlaethol Cyngar Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd 0800 100 900 (029 2090 6801 o ffon symudal)

0800 100 900



Disgyblion a Ysgol Gynradd Babyddol St Cuthbert, Caerdydd yn canfod mwy am beirianneg adeiladu ym Mae Caerdydd

Ar y bwrdd am wers gyda gwahaniaeth

Cafodd bron i 800 o ddisgyblion Blwyddyn 6 o ysgolion cynradd lleol gyfle'n ddiweddar i ganfod mwy am adfywio Bae Coerdydd.

Mwynhaodd y disgyblion daith tywys wedi'i chydlynu gan y Bartneriaeth Addysg Busnes ar y Bws Dŵr i weld y morglowdd a'r adeiladau hen a newydd o amgylch y Bae. Cafodd y disgyblion gyflwyniad yn cynnwys cyfraniadau gan gwmnïau peirianneg adeiladu lleol yn cynnwys Dean and Dyball, BAM Nuttall, Carillion Civil Engineering, ERH Communications, Alun Griffiths Contractors Cyf, Britannia Construction Cyf, Raymond Brown a Walters UK Cyf. Llenwodd y disgyblion ddalenni gwaith yn ystod y daith ac mae eu hathrawon yn adeiladu ar yr hyn a ddysgwyd gyda gweithgareddau pellach yn âl yn yr ystafell ddosbarth.

Mae effaith gadamhaol y gweithgaredd yn amlwg o sylwadau athrawon yn cynnwys: "Fe wnaeth agor llygaid disgyblion, yn arbennig y merched, i bosibilrwydd gweithio yn y diwydiant adeiladu" a "cysylltiad deunyddiau gwyddonioeth da ar gyfer yr ystafell dosbarth."

Dileu swydd yn cynnig cyfle newydd

Pan gafodd swydd y peiriannydd gwasanaeth nwy David Fulton ei dileu, rhoddodd gyfle Iddo gyflawni ei nod o sefydlu ei fusnes ei hun.

Ar ôl gweithio'n flaenorol yn y diwydiant diogelwch, gwelodd David fwlch yn y farchnad a ganwyd syniad Glamargan Guard Dogs. Roedd David wedi dywed am gyllid ReAct, cynllun a sefydlwyd gan Lywadraeth Cynulliad Cymru i helpu ailhyfforddi unigolion y cafodd eu swyddi eu dlleu a chysylltodd â Gyrfa Cymru am help. Dywedodd y cynghorydd gyrfaoedd William McCarthy wrtho am gwrs ar gael gyda R and S Training yn y Trailwng mewn trin cŵn diogelwch pwrpas cyffredinol. Cafodd wybodaeth hefyd am ddod yn hunangyflogedig.

Dywedodd David: "Medrais sefydlu fy musnes fy hun ar âl cael yr hyfforddiant ac mae'n mynd yn dda iawn hyd yma. Rydym wedi gwneud gwaith diogelwch mewn gwahanol ddigwyddiadau yn cynnwys Sioe Frenhinol Cymru a Chwpan Ryder. Rwyf hefyd wedi cytuno'n ddiweddar ar gontract gyda chwmni dudo."

ACau yn ymweld â Gyrfa Cymru

Gwahoddwyd Aelodau Cynulliad lleol o bob plaid i Ganolfannau Gyrfaoedd yng Nghaerdydd a'r Barri yn ddiweddar i goel gwybodaeth gyfoes am rôl Gyrfa Cymru wrth helpu pobl ifanc ac oedolion i gyflawni eu potensial.

Ymwelodd Jane Hutt, AC Bro Morgannwg a Gweinidog dros y Gyllideb a Busnes, â'r Ganolfan Gyrfaoedd a'r Ganolfan Porth Leuenctid yn y Barri. Wrth ysgrifennu yn y Glamorgan Gem dywedodd: "Roedd yn fraint i mi weld rhai o'r bobl ifanc sy'n awr mewn swyddi cysan neu'n llwyddo yn y coleg. Roedd ganddynt gymhelliant oc fe ddwedon nhw fod y gefnogaeth unigol a gawsant yn y Porth yn ganolog wrth newid eu bywydau.

"Fe wnes hefyd gyfarfod â grŵp o oedolion yr oedd eu swyddi wedi ei dileu, gydag effaith y dirwasgiad yn amlwg iawn. Roeddent oll ar eu ffordd i yrfaoedd a swyddi newydd ac yn uchel iawn eu canmoliaeth am effaith gwaith Gyrfa Cymru."

Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro'n ennill gwobrau

- Am yr ail fiwyddyn yn olynol derbyniodd Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro wobr gan Gadael Gofal Caerdydd am ymrwymiod y cwmni i gefnogi pobl ifanc sydd wedi treulio amser mewn gofal.
- Derbyniodd y cyngharwyr gyrfaoedd Mike Davies a Barbara Price wobrau Partner Rhagorol gan y Ganolfan Byd Gwaith am y
- cymorth a gynigiant i gwsmeriaid wrth ochr staff Canolfan Byd Gwaith yng Nghaerdydd, Penarth a'r Barri.
- Enillodd Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro Ddyfamiad Arian Buddsoddwyr mewn Pobl yn ddiweddar ynghyd â Dyfamiad Arweinyddiaeth a Rheolaeth Buddsoddwyr mewn Pobl.

Gwerthfawragwn eich sylwadau. Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiynau, sylwadau neu awgrymiadau am ein gwasanaethau cysylltwch os gwelwch yn dda ag:

Avril Jackson, Rheolydd Marchnata, Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fra, 53 Heol Siarl, Caerdydd CF10 2GD Ffôn: 029 2090 6700 neu e-bost avril,jackson⊛cardiffandvale,org.uk.







Sut y gwnaethom yn 2009/10

Cefnogaeth i fyfyrwyr mewn addysg uwchradd ac addysg bellach yng Nghaerdydd a Bro Morgannwg		Cyf- lawnisd	% yn erbyn y torged
Cyfweliadau.		15,412	120%
Cyniluniau Symud Yimlarin.		11,528	105%
Sesiynas grilp.		2,005	109%
Poblitions yn cymryd rhan yn Porth Addysg, rhaglen cymhelliant i sai 1416 oed a phobliflans mewn coleg.		688	108K
Pobl ifonc yn derbyn cefnogaeth mentors gon gynghowyr Porth Addysg.	Cyfwellodou Seslynou grifp	2,255 904	133% 105%
Gwaith gyda phobl ffenc gyda Desganiad o Angen Addyngal Arbennig.	Cyfwellodou Adolygiadau Pontio Cynlluniau Symud Ymlaen Cynlluniau Dysgu a Sgillau Sestynou gnitp	1,050 552 832 172 48	153% 104% 103% 115% 120%
Pabl Banc a ddesbyriodd gefnagaeth ar gyfor gweithgaredd addyag buones.	Ysgolien cyreadd Ysgolien uwcheadd	21,925 29,740	D/G 109%
Nifer lieoladau profied gweith a drefnwyd.	14-16 and 16-19 and	5,942 1,027	D/G D/G
Nifer y bobl ifanc a gymerodd ran mewn busnes a menter.	12-16 oed 16-19 oed	8,276 2,146	DVG
Nifer y bobl ifanc yn derbyn cefnogaeth cyflogwyr ar gyfer mentoea a gosod nodau unigdi.		1, 862	DVG
Nifer y bobl ifanc yn ymwnoud û sefydlu pesiectau burnes bach gyda chefno- gaeth cyflogwyr.	12-19 oed	5,505	DIG
Nifer y bobl franc a gymerodd ran mewn gweithgareddau cyflenwidathlygu cwlicylwm a gefrogir gan gyflogwyr.		23,290	DVG

Ceferoseth i wording a cholone.

Mae-Syrfo Cymru Coentydd o'r Fro yn gwettiio'n ogos gydig athrawan eidanthwyn sorhau fod dogyblion a myfynny yn deithynaddyngac anwentad gyrfaandd arasaedi urhal. Terhwyd 35 digwyddiad hyffondd yn ydad y ffwyddyn yn gynnwyn 1736 acthrawn a tad'i Cyyddidiadia, Galadd 41,13 acthrawn ysgolion cynadiad a wedradd a deilithwyr alleghefyd es heljau i ganfad lleoliadau gyda chyflogwyr 96,5 % yn ebyn y targed.

Cefnogaeth i rieni a gwarcheidwaid Canfu archygon moi rhieni a gofalwyr yw'r dylanwod mwyaf ar benderfyniadau gyrfa eu plant.

Trafodoethau gydarhieni.	3,301	DAG
Nosweithiau rhieni a fynychwyd.	100	DAS
Ujrthyrau at rieni mytynwyr ym intynyddaedd 7, 9, 10, 11 o 12.	28,786	DAG
Cefnogaeth i bobl ifanc sydd wedi gadael addysg lawn-amser		
Cyfweliadau gan gynghorwyr gyrfaoedd yn ein Canalfannau.	2,725	113%
Cyfweliodau gan gynghonwyr gyrlaoedd gyda phobl ifanc gyda Daiganiad o Anges Addysgol Arbennig.	304	DAG
Cyhreliodau gan gymhothwyr lleol.	3,619	100%
Conlyniadou orweiniad ysgrifenedig.	3,086	251%
Nifer y bobl ifone a ddodwyd yn y Porth Leuenetid.	536	97%
Nifer y bobl ifonc a ddodwyd mewi cyflogaeth.	283	DAS
Nifer y bobl ifone a ddodwyd newn hyfforddiant selledig ar waith.	1,648	DAG
Cyfweliadau gyda phobl ifanc yn y Porth Jesenctid.	5,820	110%
Cynfluniau Syrnud Ymlaen ar gyfer pobl ifonc yn y Porth Jewencâd.	1,041	99%
Sestimou arrigo or aufer publi flanc on y Parth Levenctid.	4.807	93%

Colff Porth Teisenchild ei redeg gain Garlis Carnas Caerdydd o'r ffe-ac mae'n rhei help ychwanegol i bobl i ban gy'n areior beth i'w wheud o'r ôl godied yr ysgol neu galeg gy'n ei choel yn anodd dod ohyd i'r cyffe cywr.

Yn ogystal mae Tim Hyfforddwyn Dysge Caesdydd, a ariennir gan Cymarth Cymru, a Rhwydweith 14-19 Caesdydd yn willedig yn Mharth Tauendid Caerdydd, Cafadd gyngharwyn gyffaoedd a gweithwyr i esenddid eu byffoddii Rhyfforddwyn Dysgu i hefyn rhobillanc 16-18 oed anoddof eu cysaedd i gael mywellodii addyg, hyffoddiaith a chyffogaith.

Mae rynghanwyr gydiacedd hefyd yn selledig gyda'i Gwesancethau Ticoeddu Ieuenchid yng Ngheerdydd a'r Froi helpugobl flonc sydd wedi troseddu i gymrydirhen mewn addycg, hyffloddiant neu gyflogaeth.

Cefnogoeth i cedolio

Contragation ordered		
Cyfecliolau gan gyrghorwyr gyrlacedd.	6,550	114%
Ohoeynt: Cyfweliodau gydag aedolion di-waith.	2,313	DAG
Cyfwellodau gyfag aedolloe a gafodd rybudd dileu rwydd yn cymwys thol a gynorthwy'r dan ReAct.	2,453	DAG
Cyfweliodau gan gymhothwyr gwybodaeth.	3,104	104%
Anweiniad ysgelfeeedig or genlyniadau.	7,316	105%
Serlynou grilip	115	115%

Llinell gymorth genedlaethol Cyngor Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd 0800 100 900

Y lynedd derbyniodd y llineil gymorth 35,041 galwad ffân a 1,407 neges e-bost, o bob rhan o Gymru.

Gweithio gyda chyflogwyr		
Ymweliodau i gyflogwyr.	1,447	82%
Swyddi gwag a hysbynnyd.	546	DVG
Cyflogwyr yn cefnogi gweithgareddau addysg busnes.	3,521	128%

Ariannir Gynfa Cymru gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Roedd cost ein gwaxanaethau am y flwyddyn 1 Ebrill 2009 - 31 Mawrth 2010 tua 62.79 y mis i bob aelwyd yng Nghaerdydd a Bra Morgannwg.

Plan your 2011 Marketing NOW

Put thought into promoting your company.

An advert in the Gem can reach

The GEM - The Priceless

Call Eileen on 01446 774484

headed - 'Don't do it yourself'

weekly newspaper, loved by

everyone in the community.

to discuss your options in the classified section of the paper,

43.000 homes . . .

Penarth to Porthcawl (covering south & mid Glam)

 through the Christmas break. Get it right first time – don't waste money.



... So let the GEM work on your behalf, we are just a phone call or e-mail away, call Eileen on

01446 774484 or e-mail

gemsales@internet-today.co.uk

STEVE AIREY

DECORATING SERVICES would like to wish all his ustomers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 01446 795520 or 07891 768151 C.S. BOXALL Ltd.

Plumbing & Heating would like to say a special Happy Christmas to all their customers 198051 01446 772444 or 0800 8491254

VALE CARPETS

would like to wish all his customers in the Vale a very Merry Christmas Tel: Paul Wright 01446 751152/07811 092477

David, Phil & Big Joe of DB DECORATION Ltd (Interior and Exterior Decorators)

would like to wish all their customers in the Vale a very Merry Christmas St Athan 01446 750256 Mobile: 07811 317954

LLANTWIT MAJOR SCHOOL OF MOTORING

Ray Neate Tel: 01446 793788 would like to wish all past, present and future pupils a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

S.M.Vaughan HEATING & PLUMBING INSTALLATIONS

Sends Seasons Greetings 🚈 🎟 to all their customers 230141

01446 734733 • 07976 790096

John Clissett

Professional Decorator Wishes a Merry Christmas to all his customers

01446 750625 - 07980 69584

Bridgend would like to Windows

wish all their customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy new year 01656 788403; Mobile: 07966 025287

Send Seasons Greetings to all their customers – "Have a lovely Christmas"

Call 01446 439212 or 01656 648646

Green Future LANDSCAPES

"Merry Christmas and thank you to all our customers"

01446 773220 • 07828 100516

D.B. FRANCIS Ltd (🍆 would like to wish all their customers in the Vale

a Very Merry Christmas FREEPHONE 0800 298 1045 Tel: 01446 771112 Fax: 01446 771175

ROOFING www.welshroofingcontractors.co.uk 01446 775145 01443 629043

CARPENTRY would like to wish all his customers

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Telephone: 07749 617322

Sharon & Andrew Staples of Bonny Tiler Llantwit Major would like to say a special Happy Christmas to all their friends and customers in the Vale.

01446 796582 / 07854 168459

Dave Hartley of plumtree GARDEN SERVICES would like to wish all his customers a Very Merry Christmas 01446 795433 07904 146288

.R. Jose Chimney Sweep

Est. 1965

HETAS Registered

would like to wish all his customers a very Happy Christmas 01446 792735

GRAB 'IT' PLANT HIRE Ltd Would like to wish all their customers in the Vale a Very Merry

Christmas and a Happy New Year 01446 700535 327B Vale Enterprise B Vale Enterp Centre, Sully



D. WILLIAMS (Coal Haulage) Ltd *MERRY CHRISTMAS* TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS Tel: 01656 890624

<u>ALLAN WILLIAMS</u>

LAWN MOWING & GARDEN MAINTENANCE Seasons Greetings to all our customers 01656 864629 / 07866 992143

ovenu.co.uk oven the UK's favourite oven cleaning specialists send Seasons Greetings to 0800 140 9800

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES

Sends seasons greetings to all their customers

07783 703366/01446 743181

Eileen and all the **GEM** staff would like to wish their customers a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

Depp and Jolie enjoy Venice in frothy thriller

Johnny Depp struck mainstream gold with the Pirates of the Caribbean franchise back in 2003, he seems to have revelled in playing characters a little out of rial outing. The visuals, as men-

the ordinary. Willy Wonka, The Mad Hatter and Sweeney Todd have all been given the sparkle of Depp's taste for the odd, but there has been little in the way of thrills and spills. 'straight' acting from the star, save for *Public Enemies* – which makes But what is most impressive is his latest film. The

Tourist, something of a welcome arrival Depp plays Frank, the titular tourist who travels to Venice to mend a broken heart. While there, he encounters Elise (Angelina Jolie), a mysterious woman who has her eye

on Frank. However, with various agencies (led by Paul Bettany) and Russian gangsters (led by Steven Berkoff) on the tale of Elise, Frank soon gets unwillingly caught up in a world of

intrigue and suspense... The term 'Hitchcockian' is generally used to describe films that manage to ane the master director's ability to create twisting and turning stories with mysteries that reveal themselves as the story reaches its climax.

Often, it is a term lazily used merely because a director or scriptwriter has adapted the more notable works of his oeuvre and presented them as heavily influenced by the likes of North by Northwest,

It's a comparison that, lazy or not, applies to *The Tourist*, but rather than merely ape something that has gone before, the film takes a story that even Hitch himself would have found appealing and ends up being part homage, part attempt to par-lay his style into modern-day filmmaking.

It is also very entertaining indeed. It is certainly assisted by using a European director, as opposed to an American one - the feel of the film having a sheen of class and sophistication with a degree of weight under the bonnet, and visually making the most of the cinematic quality that Venice brings to the screen.
You could argue that

Venice deserves its own screen credit after Depp and Jolie, such is the loving way it is shot, and you can't argue with such sumptuous visuals.

The man behind the camera, the wonderfully monikered (but

spellcheck-confounding) Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, is making his English-language debut, having helmed the astounding The Lives of Others, and Donnersmarck shows little nerves here in what is a skilled directo-

tioned, are wonderful, while the occasional outbreaks of action are smoothly handled, making up in style for what lack in expansive

Donnersmarck's light-ness of touch with the material, something his previous film lacked mainly due to the nature

of the story.

Here, he seems to relish in the playfulness of the tale, and while that does backfire slightly giving the more dramatic moments less tension. in the overall context it works very well, the frothiness of the film making it easy to overlook the lack of realism within the story, which is perhaps the film's biggest bugbear. While the set-up is

swiftly handled, there are plot holes if you have the time to look for them: Why is Frank simply going along for the ride when he doesn't know this woman? Why are the police watching Elise from afar rather than arresting her?

Come the film's conclusion this is explained in a twist that, while clever, feels something of a letdown

But given that this came from the pen of Christopher McQuarrie (The Usual Suspects) and Julian Fellowes (TV's Downton Abbey and Gosford Park) along with Donnersmarck (albeit

adapted from Jerome Salle's 2005 French picture Anthony Zimmer), there is enough clever dialogue and turns to keep you engaged, and even forgive a climax that splutters just as

things are building up. Another reason for the film's success is the pairing of Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie. remarkably the first time the pair have been on the big screen together. When you have a gorgeous woman like Jolie, and an attractive man like Depp (or so I've been told!), sparks are obviously going to fly, and the pair share a playful chem-

istry together.

Depp's offering is far more straightforward than his recent output, and it's a welcome change, the actor delivering a solid but enter-

Certainly, he adds a level of idiosyncracy to

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH **JAMIESON**

the character (his smoking of a plastic cigarette as an example) and doesn't quite convince as the ordinary man thrust into extraordinary circumstances, but Depp is never less than watchable and the same

applies here.

Jolie can do elegant lady of mystery in her sleep, and shorn of her action credentials (bar a riverboat sequence) her performance is tamer and ever so slightly more refined, her usual steely persona showing the merest hint of emotion under the surface.

As the conductor of events, she and her British accent lead us through the mystery of what is going, and look-ing her best, Jolie sparkles alongside

The film really pivots on the two leads, but there are supporting turns from the likes of Paul Bettany as an investigator on the tail of Elise, Timothy Dalton as a chief of police, Rufus Sewell as a mysterious man and Steven Berkoff, cruising as a gangster, that don't exactly push the limits, but within the film are perfectly serviceable, given the time they spend on screen.

Certainly *The Tourist* may be a little too frothy and lightweight for some, its caper movie feel and style not overly substantial and, at times, it veers towards throwaway; but as a slice of undemanding Friday night fare, it works extremely well and when you have this much beauty on screen you can't complain

about that!

VERDICT: A playful caper film that tips its hat to Hitchock, *The* Tourist is fizzy and pleasing, if lightweight, film.

Director Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck captures the beauty of Venice. and also the European feel of the thriller, while Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie sparkle in the lead roles, in what is a wonderful piece of cinematic entertainment.
Recommended.

TOWN COUNCIL **BUDGET IS** TO BE FROZEN

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Mr Deere added: have tried to do things with the money that peo-ple in Porthcawl need," added Coun Deere.

We are contributing £20.000 towards the provision of a path from Rest Bay to the end of the promenade and also £30,000 towards the building of a new sports pavilion at Rest Bay.

"Increasing our income by raising the precept in previous years has given us the scope to carry out these

This year's budget also includes a sum of £10,000 in addition to

the money for the Added Partnership, which is available to upgrade the town's war memorial, if necessary.

people to grow their The entire council budget has been set at own food. £221,360 which Foodie Project' aims to encourage rural regenerincludes £32,000 for decorative lighting in the summer and at ation by supporting the creation of thriving local Christmas, plus the profood economies. vision of banners.

The rest will go on salaries, office and accommodation costs plus £6,000 for floral displays and £6,000 towards the sea festival until 2013. and other events.

JAYNE ISAAC

Airport charge to use trollevs

A NEW 'improved' trolley service at Cardiff Airport means that it will soon cost £2 to use a trolley.

Unlike the trolley parks commonly in use at upermarkets, that £2 will be non-refundable!

The new baggage trolleys will be introduced at

Cardiff Airport today, December 16, supplied by the Newport-based company Airport Cart Service (ACS), which will supply and operate the trolley

Margaret James, the quality and contracts managrangaret ames, the quality and contracts manager at Cardiff Airport commented: "Our aim is to improve the trolley service for those travelling through the airport, and to do this the existing trolleys need to be replaced.

"We've working mid-party to the property of the

"We're working with specialist company ACS Limited to offer our customers the highest quality product and service available."

Mrs James continued: "There is a cost associated with the improved service which must be recovered by ACS Limited." Cardiff Airport will not be receiving any income from this fee

and

be made to get a

bus service between

Neath Port Talbot

hospital in Baglan,

First Cymru has withdrawn its direct Porthcawl to Swansea

bus, although it has

promised to put it back

in the spring and to run

it through the summer when holidaymakers

But the company has told BCBC transporta-

tion officers that they

have no intention of re-

instating the service in

the winter because of

Coun Jeff Tildesley,

represents

Cornelly, said that the arrangement to go in bus used to travel during the afternoon, it through the village and means that people who

No boundary

shake-up

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Coun Mel Winter, who represents Aberkenfig, was opposing the proposal for his ward which was

being split, with half going to Cefn Cribwr and the

Aberkenfig end being merged with Pen-y-Fai and Cefn Glas to create a new multi-member ward.

He pointed out that independents like himself do not have the backing of big party machines and

would be unable to canvass these new, much larger wards. He claimed that independents and small par-

ties would be driven off the council.

make use of it.

low take-up.

writes Jayne Isaac.

Porthcawl

Call for the council to

"This was the bus that they used. They

could change at Port

Talbot and then catch a

local bus to the hospital.

there, they have to catch

Bridgend or Pyle Cross,

catch a second bus to

Port Talbot and then a

third bus to the hospital.

Coming back, it's the same procedure in

"As the hospital has

only evening visiting on

weekdays, unless you can make a special

reverse.

"Now, in order to get

bus either to

groups get a boost
THE VALE and shared knowledge and encouraged to develop

amount of grown locally. to win funding for a £260,000 project to

Community food

• To increase the availof local produce.

'Community groups and community organisations.

The scheme will be submitted for funding to support to groups want-the Welsh Assembly ing to establish local Government under its growing projects. A bank Rural Development Plan of materials and Rural Development Plan of materials and for Wales, which runs resources will also be A report to Bridgend's to tools and machinery.

cabinet, which was approved on Tuesday, id that Bridgend is the lead authority for this project, with its officers handling the negotiations Earlier consultation on

the Rural Development Plan produced evidence that there was a demand for community growing schemes, which has led to the development of the community foodie project, which is now in addition to other schemes already proposed to the value of more than £2m.

have joined forces,

more

encourage

The project has a number of key aims:

with WAG.

- To encourage joint working between land
- owners and local people. · To seek alternative
- uses for under used land. • To develop horticul-

run local hospital bus

ATTEMPTS are to be made to get a bus service between bus service between ple from Cornelly and do not have cars are not getting home until very late.

"Older people are "Olde reluctant to go out in the Porthcawl are going to get to the hospital in Port Talbot. evenings especially in the dark and with cold weather," he added.

Coun Tildesley has decided to ask the transportation department to investigate the costs of on for its own putting bus which would be timed to run from Porthcawl via Cornelly and Pyle directly to the hospital before visiting and then return after

visiting. "This may not be too expensive as we are only talking about one return journey per week day," he said. "At weekends, there's afternoon visiting so people could use service buses then.

"I would be interested to see if the council's budget for providing buses to plug the gaps in commercial services could accommodate this extra service '

Read your **GEM** online bridgendtoday.co.uk or porthcawltoday.co.uk

Bridgend Councils expertise.

•To increase produce duce

The project will devel-op eight community growing schemes, working with around 12 local

The project will provide hands-on practical created, providing access

The development workers appointed to run the scheme will identify communities, individuals interest in being involved. They will help these groups and individ-uals develop a scheme that best suits their needs.

This will include support to physically devel-op sites, including providing infrastructure.

Those taking part will access to a wide range of foodstuffs.

The report states:
"This will encourage greater planning of plots so that a broad spectrum of crops are grown on one area of land. This will also support crop rotation in future years, ensuring best yield from

the soil. Surpluses may also be sold to local greengrocers and shops or at farm-

and share recipes using the the locally grown pro-

Each area will have its own resources and mateability and consumption rials bank from which they can use tools and machinery on loan, as well as the materials needed to set up gardens, like wood for raised beds

Links will be created with local schools to spread information about the project and involve young people.

Special websites will be set up, enabling people to keep in touch with what's going on and share recipes and tips.

It is also planned to hold community lunches and land owners with an and suppers where produce grown by the projects will be used to make the meals to which members of the other groups will be invited, so that knowledge and information can be shared.

The project will be run by a steering group be encouraged to share bringing in representaand exchange surplus tives from Bridgend and produce, which means that individuals will have community organisaorganisacommunity tions

> Each county will also have its own steering group to oversee what's going on in their own

It is hoped that the project will start on January 1, 2011 or as close to that date as possible.

The grant available from WAG, if approved, is £208,000 leaving the Those with a flair for two councils to find cooking will also be £52,000 between them.

Sliding gates: no records are kept

location of any elec- tronic gates. tronic sliding gates in Bridgend county borough.

Coun Peter Foley, who chairs the children's scrutiny committee, information which might be held by the council on these gates which have killed two children in the UK in recent months, including a six-year-old Bridgend girl.

Coun Foley asked if the planning department knew how many electronic sliding gates had been installed on both commercial and residential developments in the borough.

He also asked if develplanning consent granted.

does not hold information on the number of these gates in the area. powered gates. He said that planning consent is not required

NO records are kept for gates up to 6ft in of the number or height including elec-

> They are classed as permitted development whether they are manual or electronic.

He said that with new planning applications, asked deputy council the visual appearance of leader David Sage for the gates and the implicathe visual appearance of tions for highway safety were considered but developers are required to state if gates are manual or electronic unless it is relevant to these two considerations.

He added that health and safety issues came under the Health and Safety Executive and not the council.

Since the two accidents, the H and S opers installing these Executive has issued a gates were required to fit safety notice aimed at motion sensors before manufacturers, installers and estate managers stipulating the actions In his reply, Coun Sage said that the council prevent crushing and trapping incidents in

JAYNE ISAAC

PORTHCAWL BOOK WILL PAVE THE WAY **CELEBRATIONS** FOR DIAMOND JUBILI

Proclamation Ceremony

Memorial Service Inside Pavilion

THE proclamation of the new Queen of England was made outside the Grand Pavillon on Priday morning, by the chairman of the Porthcawl Council, Counoffice E. Stanley Thomas.

During the proclamation the sun abone brilliantly, and the promenade was crowded with school children from the junior and secondary schools, old age penatoners and women shoppers. As the flag was raised to salute the new Queen, the National Anthem was sung. Following the proclamation, a mamorial service proclamation, a mamorial service was held inside the Pavilion, con-ducted by the Rev. Col. Gethin Hughes, C.B., and the Rector, the Rev. Wm. Roach.

Amongst the councillors present

Amongst the councillors present were the chairman, Councillor E. Stanley Thomas; the vice-chairman, Councillor Cyril Phillips; and Councillor Rees Evans, Tom Mathias, (Mrs.) May Jones, (Dr.) R. D. Chalke, D. T. Deere, Horace Short, D. R. Jones, Roy Rowe and B. K. Michaelson, The police were represented by Inspector R. Jones and Sergt. A. Saunders, The Council staff were represented by the Clerk, Mr. Dewl King-Davies; Mr. Tom Harding, Mr. Spencer Williams, Mr. Jack Thomas, Dr. J. Alun Evans, The British Railways was represented by the station master, Mr. Vic. Roberts.

AROVE: How the Royal Proclamation

ABOVE: How the Royal Proclamation was reported in 1952.

Diamond Jubilee Porthcawl Events Team has been set the up under the Chairmanship of the Lord of Kenfig, Lindsay Morgan, who is also the president of the Porthcawl and **District Chamber of** Trade

Commerce.

The remit of the team is to organise and coordinate the events that are to be held in Porthcawl in 2012 to celebrate 60 tears of the Queen's reign.

Under the authorship of Keith E. Morgan, a commemorative book on Porthcawl and district is to be prepared as part of the celebrations.

This book will be basically a comprehensive photograph album that will record the changes that have taken place in the town since the Queen's accession to the throne on the death of her father, King George VI, on February 6, 1952.

The book is to be published early in 2011, paving the way for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations that are to fol-

A number of people already

QUEEN'S approached to write short introductions and descriptions to accompany the various photographs that have been collected to-date for inclusion in the book.

All subjects will be covered embracing education, religion, services, transport, sport and leisure, commerce and entertainment.

Some typical events are shown in the photographs on this page. These cover the reading the Royal Proclamation by Coun E Stanley Thomas, chair-man of Porthcawl Urban District Council, on the Steps of the Grand Pavilion and school coronation parties that took place in 1953.

However, these are just examples. The author is inviting anyone who wishes to contribute to the book, whether it be written memories or photographs or both, on any subject matter relat-ing to events in the town during the Queen's reign, to contact him on the address and/or telephone number given below.

Knowing how valuable photographs are to people, he is prepared to visit potential contribu-tors at their homes and digitally copy any photo-graphs on the spot without having to take them



ABOVE: Pupils at West Park Primary School celebrating the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

RIGHT: Coun E Stanley Thomas reading the Royal Proclamation from the steps of the Grand Pavilion on Friday, February 8, 1952. (Photograph courtesy of Nifa Saunders).

This is a once-in-alifetime chance to take part and make a contri-bution to the history of Porthcawl.

Dig deep into your memories and bottom drawers for photographs and other memorabilia and contact Keith on: 01656 788150, 07946 960557 or at 87, West Road, Nottage, Porthcawl, CF36 3RY.





ABOVE: Coronation Party in Mackworth Road, June 2, 1953.





Many of our advertisers have used The GEM for years. This speaks volumes. Some are lucky enough to have a great response within weeks, and some after placing just one advert . . .

"YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT"

Give us a call now - 01446 774484



Following on from placing my first advert in The GEM I thought you may like to know that I've had a great response!

I received lots of initial enquiries from Llantwit Major and Barry which converted into 6 jobs within the first 2 days of The GEM being printed and I was still receiving calls up to a week later Thank you again for your assistance and advice which is invaluable for a new business.

LOUISE LEWIS Tel. 07964 179 473

TESTIMONIAL



Advertising with The GEM has proved to be most successful in the promotion of my business.

Thank You. Spot on

Tel. 07854 148 236

TESTIMONIAL

B. W. Construction & Property Maintenance

I have been running my advert consistently for a number of years and would recommend The GEM without hesitation.

Thank you. Brett Warren,

CJ Pitman TV & Audio

SPECIAL OFFER!!!

New Digital Aerial Supplied and

Complete Installation for Only £70

(NO HIDDEN EXTRAS!)

Digital Aerials & Satellite Installed & Meter Tested

for Perfect Alignment
Free Estimates
TV Wall Mount Specialists
Freesat/Sky Installation

& Servicing

• Domestic & Commercial

freesat HD

BW Construction 07742 572731

Local Tradesman

From Barry

Established Over 10 Years

Friendly, Personal Service

12 Month Guarantee

www.pitmantv.co.uk

digital 💟

Aerials and Satellite

10



- FREE Sky + HD box for existing and new customers
- taking out their first Sky + HD package Digital Aerials Supplie KY Repairs, adjustments







- √ Domestic & Commercial √ Discounts For Caps
- √ 24 Hour 7 Days Service
- √ 12 Month Guarantee
- √ Digital Switchover Specialists
- √ RDI Approved Installers



Is Your Aerial Installer

Confederation of Aerial Installers Certified?

Police Checked? Using Industry Benchmark Aerials, Cables and Accessories?

ONE VISION ARE!

CALL PAUL WILLIAMS

digital 🔽

VALE DIGITAL

AERIAL & SATELLITE SERVICES

DIGITAL AERIAL SPECIALISTS

All types of HD Equipment Supplied & Installed LCD & Plasma Wall Brackets Supplied & Fitted

Tel: Tim - 0800 032 3775 / 07772 206399 / 01446 793189 anytime

COMPETITIVE PRICES • FREE ESTIMATES • 7 DAY SERVICE

(CARDIFF, BARRY & THE VALE, BRIDGEND & PORTHCAWL)

Covering all areas

skyno

01446 439 306 Bridgend 01656 349 281

freesat HD



Wall Mounted Installation Specialists - visit our website for examples

min HD

www.onevisionltd.co.uk

The Aerial Man

(DAN GRACE)

- 🥒 🛠 Digital Aerials
- * Repairs & Upgrades
- * Affordable Prices
- * Reliable Service
- * OAP Discounts
- * Free Home Visits

01446 439 124

07818 413 451

www.dangraceaerials.co.uk

1 st Digital

Local Digital Aerial Specialist

Digital Aerials Installed & Repaired Set Up and Tune In Service Problems with:

Missing Channels • Freezing • Breaking Up

Telephone Adrian on Barry 01446 747875 or 07999 331160

www.1st-digitalaerials.com

Covering All Areas of Barry, The Vale, Cardiff, Bridgend and Newport

Call Chris or Craig on

07980 971303/01446 747852

Building Services

B. W. Construction and Property Maintenance

- GENERAL BUILDING
 - BRICKLAYING PATIOS AND BLOCK PAVING
- CARPENTRY & JOINERY KITCHEN FITTING
- PLASTERING
- **GARDEN DESIGN** ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING

DECKING AND

24 HOUR CALL OUT

For the professional touch, phone for free estimate with no obligation

No sales people, no middle man, no problem 01446 713814 07742 572731

Mike Anderson (Builders) **Established 40yrs**

Specialists in Loft & Dormer Conversion New Build & Extensions Wetrooms, UPVC Windows & Doors No job too big or too small References if required.

Call 01656 771870 or 07976 720368

Blinds and Curtains

GOOD REASONS

1 FREE Fitting 2 FREE Quotation 3 5 Year Guarantee

Freephone: 0500 295192

Made in Wales.....Proud to be Welsh One offe



OUR NAME IS OUR GUARANTEE TARLINE

AWNINGS & BLINDS 'NEW SHOWROOMS' UNIT 3 & 4
WESTERN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE CAERPHILLY CF83 1BQ www.starline-blinds.co.uk

TEL: (029) 2086 0631



MASONWISE BUILDERS

- ☆ Barry
- Grant Work
- Conservatories
- Patio/Drives Fibreglass Flat Roofs



742928

- Extensions
- Roofs
- Estimates Free 44 Newlands Street, Barry



PHILIP YOUNG & SON LTD.

- **Building & Roofing Local Authority Approved**
- NEW BUILD EXTENSIONS RENOVATIONS Conservatories
- 30 years experienceDisabled Conversions
- Render/Pebble Dash
 Loft Conversions
- Flat Roofs • Garage Conversions
- Painting/Decorating Kitchens/Bathrooms PVC Doors/Windows
- Decking/drivewaysDpC Work

Free Estimates & Advice, contact Tel/Fax: 01446 743706 Mobile: 07885 537087

Cleaning Services

1st CHOICE CLEANING SERVICES

- Clean/Sanitise Carpets and Upholstery One price - No extras.
- Pet Odour/Stain Removal Protective Treatments Leather suite cleaned & fed
- Local, reliable & Professional 01446 737695 07930 157952

LLANTWIT MAJOR CLEANING SERVICES

Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning Average Carpet £35 3-Piece Suite £70 DIY Hire Service 1/2 Day £10, 24 hours £15 – FREE DELIVERY -

Tel. Llantwit Major 796227

Call: 01446 774 484 The GBM

Disposal

* Septic Tank * *Cesspit Emptying *
* Treatment Plants Floyds is a well

established service



Carpentry

Services

LOCAL FRIENDLY PERSONAL SERVICE • ALL AREAS COVERED

446

Carpentry Services

- we're CARPENTRY Very good Kitchens • Flooring • Stairs Tiling • Alterations • Decking

Call Peter 07749 617322

DIAL A CARPENTER o job too big or too sn From Door Hanging to Fitted Kitchens!



Clock

Restoration

If its wood



National Inspection Council for

Approved Contracto

C EIG

Carpet Services

Computer Services

STEVE SEGUST

FLOORING Carpet Fitting, Refitting & Repair Service Available ~ Est 1987 ~ Choose from the comfort cnoose from the comfort of your own home. Free quotations, fitting, underlay and gripper. All types of flooring vailable with a huge range of samples to choose from. Best prices around. Call any time.

or 07774 807111

AB COMPUTER

SERVICES

TUITION - BROADBANI WIRELESS NETWORKS REPAIRS & INSTALLATION

For home or office

Tel: 07811 422 946 27 High St, Cowbridge www.cowbridge-it.co.uk

crystal-it

01446 731231

Home Visits

Computer HELP when YOU need IT

Crystal IT Services Ltd

VALE CARPETS

The Carpet Shop that comes to you 100's of Carpet & Vinyl samples Established since 1980 Also Carpet, Upholstery Cleaning

Tel: Paul Wright 01446 751152 07811 092477

UPVC Windows and Doors & Garage Door Repairs and Installation Windows Misted Up? Broken Locks/handles/

01446 790230 07939 475736

Double

Glazina.

D&R

STEVE MOLONEY

Double glazing repairs. Hinges, handles, misted up sealed units, complete repair service available. Established 1979.

01656 783594 07877 558525

Tel 01446 773158 07779 713604 anytime

HD Computer

Solutions

All problems fixed
 Fast, reliable, on-site service

Friendly advice freely given

Computer Problems? **WÉ FIX THEM**

No fix no fee

Why not use

The GEM to advertise your

Company in 2011. Call us on 01446 774484

Double Glazing

MMOMMDOOR

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF UPVC AND ALUMINIUM WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR Do you have any of the following problems...?

Misted-up Double Glazing • Broken Hinges Seized Patio Door Rollers • Faulty door Locks Seized Handles • Draughts • Broken Letter Box • Leaks, etc If so phone for a free estimate and advice

FREEPHONE COWBRIDGE 0800 169 5171

We offer a competitive and friendly service to the Vale and surrounding area TRY US FOR NEW UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS 8 am - 8 pm (7 days)

• Window and Door Repair •

Are you thinking of improving your home? MPN will pay the extra VAT in January

Visit our brand new showroom now open 9am - 9pm in Bridgend 7 days a week



Bevelled Front Doors from £550 fitted Beat the VAT Rise. Fit before Christmas

Windows & Door Repairs available 7 days 6 Windows fitted from £1995

Doors fitted from £399 rvatories from £5500

Our energy efficient windows and doors could save you up to £295.00 off your

fuel bills

Free Vertical Blinds and Beat the VAT Rise with all full house windows and doors fitted before Christmas **FULL GARAGE**

FROM £5,000

FREE OUOTATIONS

Free argon gas filled energy windows when you order this month only – So order NOW!

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS Network VEKA - Reliable in the extreme M.P.N. Call 01446 439212 or 01656 648464 www.mpnwindows.com

UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS - Established 1994 (2009/2010 Award Winners) Showroom at 10 Ewenny Road, Bridgend CF31 3HL FEHSA]

Driving Tuition

STEE AVE (33)

Driving School Ltd

- Lessons from £9.50 Learn from 14 years of age Trailer Towing Training

Instructor Training

0800 0280 406 www.catseyesdrivingschool.co.ul

SUNNYSIDE SCHOOL OF MOTORING DoT, ADI, RoSPA (Gold Award)

8

6 95A

Pass Plus Registered. Punctual, patient & reliable instruction. Pick-up Service. Theory tuition if required.

Tel. (01656) 658108 Mobile: 07968 230465

garage • Doors

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES The garage door spe

All types of doors oplied, fitted & repaired

ver 15 years experience. Same day repairs.

01446 743181 www.gdsdoors.co.uk

Decorating Services

LANEWISE

DRIVING SCHOOL

First 3 hrs from £27.00

First 10 hrs from £110

For Total Beginners

STEVE AIREY **Decorating Services**

& External & External Painting, Decorating. Coving. Fully qualified

01446 795520 07891 768151/

Decorating Services



√ Domestic and

Clean, Tidy & Reliable

Clean, Tidy & Rehable
 Insurance Work Undertaken
 uPVC Soffits, Fascias & Guttering
 Tree Estimates
 For Outdations

01446 771137

Cowbridge · Mobile: 07973 628842 e-mail: cdc137@hotmail.com

Washing Machines Electric Cookers, Tumble Driers, etc

Repaired in your own home Freephone 0800 2984518

Barry 744117

T.R.S. REPAIR SHOP

Domestic Appliance Repairs & Spares Refurbished Appliances On Sale

Repairs and spares for

- WASHING MACHINES
- COOKERS
- TUMBLE DRYERS
- FRIDGE/FREEZERS
- VACUUM CLEANERS

All makes including HOTPOINT - CREDA -VISA CANDY - HOOVER -ZANUSSI - INDESIT

Local 08456 804 806

Open 6 days a week Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm (1.00pm on Saturday)

DYSON

Electrical Services

Tel 01446 **7**92468

07885 347642

TELE-ELECTRICAL SERVICING

Specialist repairs in TV Video, DVD & Audio. Installations, tuning and set-up service.

Tel: (01656) 654156 or 07792 887835

Dave Reffell

Electrical Services Domestic Installer Scheme Free Quotations

01446 751743 07743 500149 01446 719555 07798 501267 dmreffell@hotmail.co.ul

LAING Electrical Services

OMESTIC, COMMERCIAL, FLECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS FIRE ALARMS DESIGN, INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE N.I.C.E.I.C. Approved

St Athan 751033 Mobile 07980 712777

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS

Washing Machines, Cookers, Fridge/Freezers, Tumble Dryers, Ovens, Hobs, Hoods. Built-in or Freestanding Appliances

01446 700206/730884

Removals

/ale Removals & Deliveries

Removals

Deliveries House Clearance FREE QUOTATIONS

Electrical Services Handyman Services

allan brown

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS **NO JOB TOO SMALL!** If you are looking for a friendly,

reliable & trustworthy service for in and around your home or business, call Allan

01446 750236 or 07740 187613 anytime "WHO CARES WINS"

07812093098

CARPENTRY • FASCIAS LAMINATE FLOORS
DOORS/FENCING/DECKING

CALL TONY ON 01446 750698 07546 086716

Security Services

Locksmith & Carpentry Services

nplete security check All aspects of carpentry **ANTHONY** 07866 356810

Gas Services

Oil, Gas & LPG Heating Repairs Oil Tank Repairs

24 hour Service OFTEC & Gas Safe Registered

Call Mobile 07768 367298 01446 461994 or 01656 657438



Garden Services

RIVER LE Vale Business Park, Llandow Cowbridge CF71 7PF Horticultural

|Cowbridge & Vale Electrical

R.J.B.

All electrical installation works carried out.

Emergency call-out, re-wires, sockets, lights, Security

Tel: 01446 775602 Fax: 01446 773476 www.riverlea.co.uk



Most makes serviced and reselved



ALL WORK GUARANTEED Call Nick on 01446 710736 or 07790 166480

www.gardenandlandscapeservices.co.uk Fully insured, excellent references and portfolio available

The Green Factor Ltd

Free estimates, fully insured.

Landscaping • Fencing
• Decking • Hedge Cutting
• Garden Clearance
• Patios and Paving
Call Paul on 01446
736525 or 07815 319427
WE ARE QUALIFIED,
RELIABLE AND LOCAL!

Plastering Services

PLASTERERS

All Interior and Free Quotes

Tel. 01446 774899 0781 685 7935

GUY FORD Quality Plastering Service No job too small FREE OUOTES



Plumbing Services

C BACON PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES

Mobile: 07889 514321 Telephone: 01446 790179

A professional service for all your domestic plumbing and heating problems. appliance servicing, landlord gas safety certificates, bathroom installations and tiling Free Estimates • Competitive Prices • Fully Insured

M MARTYN PLUMBING SERVICES

Bathrooms, showers, radiators, outside taps, washers, power flush and any plumbing jobs.

07526 125982 or 01446 753503



Combination Boiler Specialist Old Combi out - New Combi in from only £1,100

Annual Boiler Service only £40

- ★ Boiler Breakdowns ★ Cookers
- * Bathroom Suites * Showers * Free landlord/homeowner Safety Certificate with every service

All Work Guaranteed. Fully Insured Fast, Friendly Serv - ') safe

124 The Headlands, Barry

S.M.Vaughan

HEATING & PLUMBING INSTALLATIONS

- Boiler Installation Specialists 230141
- LPG specialists
- Static Homes Caravans Boats
- Gas Safety Certificates

Roofing

specialists

Servicing • Bathroom Installation

01446 734733 • 07976 790096 Unit 11, Ty Verlon Ind. Estate, Barry

Silvey Roofing

S. MIDDLETON & SON

ROOFING

Covering roofs in South Wales for over 23 years

Head Office: Unit 24, Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge CF71 7PF Email: info @ welshroofingcontractors.co.uk 01446 775145 • 01656 349056 • 01443 629043

All work Guaranteed with Optional Insurance Cover from

We cover all aspects of roofing including Firestone EPDM Flat Roofing Rubber Systems

www.middletonroofing.co.uk

New Roofs/Repairs

UPVC Guttering & Fascias

Tel: 01446 404838

01656 720551

07973 488806

Wanted JOHN

SCRAP METALS

- **WE BUY:**
- BRASS
- STAINLESS

- ALUMINIUM

Up to £150 paid on

collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired

vehicles. Also body shells

and scrap metals collected

No wheels, no problem.

Tel: 029 2059 7887 07971 648596

- VANS
 LORRIES
 ALL SCRAP
- WIRE & CABLE ETC.

Cash Paid ££££ Up to £4.20 per kilo given for Copper FURN YOUR OLD METAL INTO CASH CALL: 01446 701707

SUTTONS **Dave The Gas** Auto Salvage

All heating and plumbing work undertaken, free estimates, no job too small

DOUL MARSHMAN

24 HR DOMESTIC

PLUMBING SERVICE

Repairs • Installation

Tiling • Electrical

01446 740176 • 07876 506982

DC Plumbing

NO call out charge

01446 413971 obile: 0779 263 9909

ASH Plumbing By Heating

Park Homes

Caravans

01446 751204 673 07812 599891

Flexible hours

No job too small

SARTAIN

Plumbing

& Tiling

01446

794266

Tel: 07779 or 01446 421006



All MoT Failures and No Tax £100 to £1,000 Collect (any distance).

02920 598762

07816 172933

For Sale

Big Bag Logs

Delivered to your door

Logs are delivered in the big bags Use straight out of the bag

Call PREMIER TURF

Phone 01656 784194 Mobile 07815 861864



Tiling/Bathrooms

Bonnv Tiler

Wall & Floor Tiling Specialists Full Bathroom and

Wetroom installation

Professional, Friendly & Reliable Service 01446 796582 / 07854 168459

Roofing Services

301616

Fairfax & Glover Roofing

 Slating • Tiling • Lead Roofs Lead Fabrications/Welding

Est. Over 25 years Tel. 01446 773945 01443 223666 01446 781266 Mobile 07986 964904 07825 959499

BILL FOULDS TILING SERVICE

Tiling

Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone Tiling, Decorating and Finishing Touches Portfolio and

reference available 01446 771105 07736 391937

ROOFTEC ROOFING SERVICE New slate/ tile/flat roofs. Also fibreglass flat roofs.

All aspects of uPVC guttering, fascias, downpipes, etc.
Chimney/ valley repairs.
House maintainance

work carried out. No job too small

uaranteed competitive rate Tel. (01656) 722593 Mobile: 07969 248688 Free estimates 24 hour emergency call out.

Call: 01446774484 The GEM

barry-today.co.uk cowbridge-today.co.uk llantwit-major-today.co.uk porthcawl-today.co.uk bridgend-today.co.uk

Glamorgan **GEM Websites**

News, Sport. Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to eks for 50p a word plus To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig Gem* at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must con-tain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. Sorry no refunds are given.

are given.

SINGLE BED with pine teddy bear head and feet, 2 x matching 2 drawer chest 45. Tel: 01446 412667. (51)

MAMAS & PAPAS COT as new 255. Mothercare high-chair, perfect condition 225 ono. Tel: 01446 771307

Cowbridge. (51)

ROLEX OYSTER Perpetual date just stainless steel/white gold. Boxed, one year old, authenticity certificates. £2,600 ovno, cost £4,490. Tel: 01446 745859. (51)

ANGLIAN Fully glazed Georgian style white UPVC front door and frame £100. Tel: 01446 794093. (51)

Tel: 01446 794093. (51)
FOLD-UP BED and mattress. New, £30. Tel: 01446
742772. (50)
M A N 'S S A R A C E N
Mountain bike, new £350.
Sell £250 ono (cash). Tel:
01446 795275. (50)

DURESTA GEORGE Brand new large sofa and arm-chair, antique gold velvet. RRP £3,500, sell £2,800 ono. Tel: 07891 793915 or 01446 760688. (50)

01446 760688. (50)
When SEATER SETTEE
With two fully recilining electric armchair, burgundy, excellent condition £350
ono. Mantis cultivator /hedgecuter, also strimer and shredder £175 for all (can be separated. 4ft bed with headboard, good condition £30. Tel: 01446 404679 (evenings only), (50) (evenings only). (50)
3 SEATER SETTEE Cream

leather and two armchair, good condition £150. Buyer collects. Tel: 01446 742797.

(50)
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL
Design: one pair of curtains,
2 double duvets, pillow
cases, sheets, bean bag
£50. Beautiful omate gold
mirror cost £100, sell £50.
Tel: 01656 772160. (50)
4FT DRAWER DIVAN BED
Auttres/Beauthout

Mattress/headboard, as new, 9 year guarantee £125. Tel: 01656 661237. (50)

Tel: 01656 661237. (50)
GIRLS' APOLLO BIKE 16"
wheels, suit age 6-9, blue &
pink frame, good condition.
Cost £100, sell £45 ono. Tel:
07973 863659. (49)
HOTPOINT Under counter
fridge & freezer, white, £45
each. Tel: 01446 701420.
(49)

G-PLAN Two x 2 seater sofas, armchair, pale grey/blue draylon £250. Tel: 01446 773135. (49)

ŏ1446 773135. (49)
HINARI MICROWAVE
Black/chrome, still in box
£25. Hinari multi att. hand
blender & carver, still in box
£25. Pine 4 drawer chest
and country mirror £40.
Solid pine headboard £10.
Tel: 01656 789096. (49)

GUEST BED Never used. £80 new, will sell £50 ono. Tel: 01446 743204. **(49)** WHITE STEEL BATH

attachments, very good condition £50. Tel: 01446 794268. (48) **BERGERE SOFA** Attractive

large G-Plan 3-seater in antique gold draylon, £99. Tel: 01446 795754. (48)

Iel: 01446 795754. (48)
IKEA Epedit white book
case £30. Ikea Fredrick work
station, birch effect/silver
£30. Ikea Meldal day bed
£40. Tel: 01446 795386. (48)
TROPICAL AQUARIUM 387 long with cabinet, fish and accessories £80 ono. Tel: 01656 784107. (48)

BRITAX Children's car seat. Aged up to 4 years, excellent condition £60. Tel: 01446 748801. (48)

Motors For Sale

06 Mercedes Benz A150 SE Lux Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 LS 04 3-Dr Hatch 5-Dr Estate

Black, petrol, MOT June 2011, very good condition, SH, 49,000 miles, E/W, CD central locking, lady owner

£5.495 ono 077177 61465

Zetec 5-Dr

Pale blue, 20,731 miles, tax & MOT Jan 2011, VGC.

£4,000

01446 773117

54 Ford Focus 2000 Nissan Micra 1.4 SE Auto 5-Dr

Purple metallic, one owner, or 37,000 miles, new MOT, 6 months tax, central locking, E/W, excellent condition throughout, ill ness forces reluctant sale.

,000 miles, Silver, Tax MOT, excellent.

£2,750

07742 647019

£1.950 07894 233331

Xmas Greetings

Dilys Leyshon

wishes all her family and friends a Very Happy Christmas and Good Health in the New Year.

"God Bless"

To family and friends:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from Gareth Collier



Property

Ainsley Properties - Housing Options

2 BED HOUSE

ALMA TERRACE, OGMORE VALE 2 BED HOUSE

NANTYMOEL ROW, NANTYMOEL 3 BED HOUSE

OGWY STREET, NANTYMOEL is, supported cases, house share options considered. rences required. Local Housing Allowance rents apply.

Call for further details: Tel: 0845 643 1469 • 07961 403 137

TO LET

2 x1 Bedroom Flats Plymouth Road Barry Island odernised throughou Middle Floor Flat £450 pcm

Top Floor Flat £400 pcm Tel. 01446 721168 Mob. 07813 134123

FOR SALE/TO LET West Ceffyl Broughton Road Wick, Vale of Glamorgan £289,000/

£720 per calendar month Detached three bedroom property. Subject to agricultural occupancy condition.

Contact: Philip Thomas of Herbert R Thomas LLP. Tel: 01446 776370. E-Mail: philipthomas@hrt.com

10 let Large 6 bed property WEST ÊND BARRY

£795 pcm Call now on 07966 557537

One, two or three person serviced or unserviced offices with parking available in Cowbridge Contact Sue Peake 01446 775959

HOUSE SHARE RHOOSE POINT

Detached
Executive Property
Double bedroom
with en-suite - £110pw
Double bedroom
with bathroom - £110pw
Own lounge.
Inclusive of bills.
Available beginning
of February.
Tel Jackie
07553370697

Family Notices

Family Notices

Maurice Dwek 1927-2010

Brenda & family would like to thank the many people who attended the funeral, for the numerous letters and cards of sympathy, and also to Canon Derek Belcher & Father Julian for leading the very moving service. It has been a great comfort to us at this very sad time.

COLE Thomas James

John and his family would like to thank Jim's relatives, friends and neighbours at Sigingstone for their support and messages of sympathy at this sad time.

A special thank you to the staff at Southway for their care and dedication, Reverend David Boult for his kindness and comfort, and Thomas Brothers for their professionalism.

IN MEMORY **GARY JONES**

December 18th 2009

It's been a year since this beautiful man was stolen from our lives.

'Nothing beautiful in this world is ever really lost, all things loved live in our hearts forever. Pam, Gill, Simon, Gabe and Taylor. x

WHITEHOUSE

The family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral. We would also like to thank family and friends for their support to our father over the past months and for all the messages of sympathy. Special thanks also to Revd Julian Jenkins and Thomas Brothers.

HARRIS Cliff

Cliff
Peacefully on December 11 at Princess of
Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Cliff of St Athan,
beloved husband of the late Kathleen.
Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James &
Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday December 21,
service 11am at St Athan Church followed by
interment in St Athan Cemetery.
Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

Funeral Directors >

W. A. Brown & Son

Funeral Directors

Contactable 24 bours a day, 7 days a week. Funeral pre-payment plans • Memorial masonry

Llantwit Major 01446 792489



Pembroke House. College Street

Est 1946 - 24 hour Service

W. H. PREENE & SON

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN AVAILABLE

54 MAIN STREET, CADOXTON Telephone 01446 420520

Cadoxton Funeral Home



Birthdays

Lauren Sweeney



Happy 21st Birthday 18th December 2010 'ALL GROWN UP Doing well on your year abroad we are all proud of you. Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Cameron,

Nan & Grand, xxx

Congratulations



Andrew and Bev on the birth of your beautiful baby boy

Jayden Kevin Charlie MAKER

Lots of love from Nanny and Gramps Maker, Nanny and Bampy Gifford

Anniversaries

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Eric & Gwen Boorman

23rd December 2010



CONGRATULATIONS AND LOTS OF LOVE FROM YOUR FAMILY Kath, Steve, Jessica, Daniel, Wendy, Martyn, Rhian, Andrew, Bethan, Lee and Erin.

Birth Notices

Congratulations and lots of love to

STUART AND MELISSA HUGHES

(née Jelinek) on the birth of



Violet Elise

December 12, 2010 7lb 81/2 oz.

First Grandchild for Philip and Linda Jelinek

Thank You

Thanks Nigel, Marianne and family for my Surprise Birthday Party Superb food at 'Oscars' Thank you Julian & staff. Music & vocals: Jeff Hooper. Thank you to everyone for my lovely cards and presents, and being so, so secretive. How you did it is beyond me. Love you - Maureen Chick

Situations Vacant

(Permanent Post) PERSONAL CARER

To assist a disabled (spinally injured) man in Boverton with personal care (showering, dressing, etc) and daily living. Generous rates of pay, bonus for weekends. Approx 8am - 9.30am, 2 - 3 mornings per week, including weekend or part weekend, increasing to include some lunchtimes.

Contact 07731 33 60 88 or email loper.inter@virgin.net

Quorum Associates Experienced Structural Engineer

required for permanent position in a rapidly expanding South Wales based

Contact 01446 774493

Lost & Found

FOUND KEY

'Single rimlock' (Min-y-Mor) West End, Barry Call: 01446 733834

Public Notice

VALE OF GLAMORGAN LEGAL, PUBLIC PROTECTION & HOUSING SERVICES MARRIAGE ACT 1994 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004



BRO MORGANNWG GWASANAETHAU CYFREITHIOL, AMDDIFFYN Y CYHOEDD A THAI DEDDF PRIODI 1994 A DEDDF PARTNERIAETH SIFIL 2004

Take notice that the above department has received the following application under the above Act from Vale of Glamorgan Hotel Ltd for Vale Resort, Hensol Park, Hensol, Vale of Glamorgan, CF72 8JY to be a premise approved as a venue for Marriage and Civil Partnership Ceremonies

This application and associated plans are available for public inspection between 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

Any person wishing to object to the grant of this approval should write to the above address giving reasons for their objection within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Peter H Evens Director of Legal, Public Protection & Housing Services

Hysbysir drwy hyn fod yr adran a enwir uchod wedi derbyn cais o dan y Ddeddf uchod gan Vale of Glamorgan Hotel Cyf ar ran Vale Resort, Parc Hensol, Hensol, Bro Morgannwg, CF72 BJY I fod yn safle cymeradwy ar gyfer cynnal Seremoniau Priodas a Phartneriaeth Sifil.

Gall aelodau'r cyhoedd weld manylion y cais a'r cynlluniau cysylliadig rhwng 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. ddydd Llun i ddydd Gwener yn y Swyddfeydd Dinosig, Heol Holton, Y Barri CF63 4RU.

Os ydych chi'n dymuno gwrfnwynebu'r cais hwn. dylech anton gwrthwynebiad ysgrifenedig yn cynnwys rhesymau i'r cyfeiriad uchod cyn pen 21 diwrnod ar ôi cyhoeddi'r hysbysiad hwn

> Peter H Evans Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a Thai

Vale AM backs plea to reinstate short breaks service for the disabled

ANGELA THOMAS and her daughter, Marnie, petitioned Vale AM, Jane Hutt, at her surgery about re-instating the short breaks service run by Action for Children for the Vale Council at Ty Robin Goch,

Barry.
The AM met parents and carers using Ty Robin Goch at their recent protest at the Civic Offices and she wrote to the Vale Council to raise her concerns about the reduction in service from seven days to just

four days a week.

Ms Hutt commented: 'Short break services support disabled children and their families by giving disabled children and young people enjoyable experiences and respite

for parents and carers.
"For the last three vears, the Welsh Assembly Government has provided more than £1.5 million each year to local authorities throughout Wales to promote and improve short break services for disabled children, young people and their families.

We are protecting social services through the Local Government Settlement recently announced. This protection means that

funding for social services will increase in cash terms by £35m by 2013-14, representing a three per cent uplift. She went on:

"Provisions within the Children and Young Persons Act 2008 will place a statutory duty on local authorities to provide short breaks for disabled children and their families, and it comes into force next

"I am glad the scrutiny committee has taken this matter up and I trust the Vale Council will now consider re-instating this vitally important service in the Vale,' the AM concluded.



Coity WI celebrate season of success!

Mutton and Mary Poland came creditable fourth in the recent competitions at Bridgend Recreation Centre.

Mary Poland, president of Coity WI, has also had a great success at the GFWI competitions at the Royal Welsh winter fair, where

the home of Mr and Mrs Coity Church.

John Dunlop of Coity. The Christmas season

beautifully illustrated talk on her life Church. as a ballerina.

December with Christmas the dinner, held this year in Madeleine Moon MP. the Church Hall.

NEW Age Kurling is Howell's of Cardiff for of each of the WIs in the getting popular with late night shopping, and Link and the singing was the ladies, and Ann supporting the Help for accompanied by the supporting the Help for accompanied by the Heroes coffee morning at organist and choir of

The speaker at the was further celebrated as monthly meeting was some members took part Christine Seaman, who in the Christmas Tree Festival at and delighted to find that we opened had won the overall pristmas prize, judged by

The WI tree carol represented 'Baby's First Welsh winter fair, where she was awarded first prize in a class of 18 for Mary's, Coity, with a Nativity theme given a her fruit cake.

Other activities in November included a Sue Beverly. Lessons and Christmas fair, a visit to read by representatives myrrh.

CAT CENTRE'S OPEN DAY HE **NEW HOMES FOR FRIENI**

Photos by MANDY THOMAS (Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347) These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

THE Christmas fayre at Cats Protection's Bridgend adoption centre has been hailed a "cracking success", raising more than £1,500 and finding homes for more than 35 cats and kittens;

The event was held on Saturday, December 11, at the centre. Santa and his Elves, the Ghost of Christmas Past, and the Snow Queen attended, along with more than 300 people, making it one of the centre's most successful Christmas Fayres to date.

As well as meeting the cats and kittens at the centre, there were attractions including Santa's Grotto, raffle, bric-a-brac, tombola, stalls, balloon model-

ling, children's crafts, face painting and much more.

Bethan Potts, the deputy manager, said: "It was great to have so many people turn up to support us. A great time was had by all, and all cat carers at the centre are delighted that so many of our cats and kit-

tens have found loving homes before Christmas"

The centre manager, Sue Dobbs, said "The event had great local support and we would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteers, supporters and local businesses who helped make the day possible.

local businesses who helped make the day possible. "The money raised will help care for the cats and kittens in the centre. We're very grateful to everyone who dug deep into their pockets".

The centre's next event is a special open day on April 16, 2011, featuring a sponsored fire and glass walk. For further information about the event, or if you would like to adopt a cat/kitten, telephone the centre on 01656 724396

Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre is part of a national network of 253 volunteer-run branches and 29 adoption centres that together help more than 193,000 cats and kittens each year.

more than 193,000 cats and kittens each year.































ALL MAKES OF CARS AND LIGHT COMMERCIALS

Call in for a FREE WINTER CHECK inluding Battery, Anti-freeze and Tyre Check





SERVICING • BRAKES • EXHAUSTS• CLUTCHES • CAMBELTS • WELDING

- GEARBOX ENGINE REPAIRS TYRES
 - BALANCING PUNCTURE REPAIRS
 - TRACKING DIAGNOSTICS
 - SHOCK ABSORBERS
 - WHEEL BEARINGS
 - ALL WORK UNDERTAKEN Car and customer collection available

01446 774870



Bryan Thomas Car Sales - Barry

Specialist Suppliers of Ex

Motability Scheme Cars

20 years in business Established since 1990

Ex-Motability Scheme

Huge Savings on Nearly New Cars

- ★ Low mileage
- ★ In house warranty
- ★ Main dealer MoT'd
- ★ Fully main dealer maintained
- ★ One owner
- ★ Three year old or less
- ★ Fully prepared and valeted
- ★ Ready to drive away
- ★ Access to an additional 1,000 cars for 1 week delivery from online system at great prices
- ★ All HPi gold checked
- ★ Finance arranged
- ★ All types of card accepted
- ★ Part exchange welcome

-			
	07 07 07 07 07 07	08 ASTRA SRi 1.9 CDTi 150 bhp, diesel, black, 27k miles, fsh, 3-dr Sport Hatch £7,99 57 ASTRA Sport Hatch 1.6 Design 3-dr only 5k miles, alloys, half leather, a/c, black £6,99 57 ASTRA 1.6 Life 5-dr. 19k miles, a/c, fsh, blue metallic £4,99 57 ASTRA 1.8 Life Auto 5-dr, 17k miles, a/c, fsh, black metallic £4,69 57 VECTRA 1.8 SRi 5-dr silver, alloys, a/c, fsh, 47k miles £4,99 57 ZAFIRA 1.6 Club, black, 7 seats, 21k miles, alloys, a/c, fsh £5,99 57 ZAFIRA 1.6 Life, black, 7 seats, 24k miles a/c, fsh £5,49 57 ZAFIRA 1.6 Life, silver, 7 seats, 42k miles a/c, fsh £4,99	5 5 5 5 5
	57	57 ZAFIRA 1.6 Life, silver, 7 seats, 61k miles, a/c, fsh £4,49 57 SCENIC 1.9 diesel Dynamique Silver alloys, a/c 22k miles £5,99)5
	07	57 SCENIC 1.7 Dynamique, 7 seats, gold, 12k miles, alloys, a/c, fsh£5,29)5
	05	57 GRANDE Scenic 1.6 Dynamique, gold, alloys, a/c, fsh, 32k miles£5,99 D5 GRANDE Scenic 1.6 Dynamique, 7 seats, 21k miles, alloys, a/c£4.49)5
		57 MEGANE 1.6 Dynamique Auto, 28k miles, alloys, a/c	
	07	07 MEGANE 1.6 Dynamique, 3-dr, black, alloys, a/c, pan roof, 27k miles, fsh£4,49 08 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 Dynamique, alloys, red 32k miles£3,99	15
	07	57 FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr silver, 37k miles, alloys, a/c, fsh£4,99)5
	07	57 FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr Black 38k miles alloys, a/c)5
		07 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-dr Silver 32k miles a/c, Alloys fsh	
	07	57 GRANDE Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5-dr, allys, a/c, fsh)5
	07	D7 HYUNDAI Coupe S3 Grey, alloys, red leather, a/c, 32k miles fsh£7,49	5
		SELECTION OF OTHER QUALITY USED VEHICLES	
	04	54 ZAFIRA 1.6 Life, black, 7 seats, 53k miles, a/c. fsh, full MoT	15
	55 51	05 CLIO 1.5 Diesel Dynamique, 3-dr, ful MoT, silver, alloys, a/c, 36k miles, £30 tax£4,49 01 FIAT Multipla Diesel, 6 seats, alloys, full MoT£1,99	15 15
	Y	01 VECTRA Diesel 5-dr, silver, full MoT£1,29 00 KA 3, black, alloys, cloured bumpers, full moT	15
	S 52	99 PUNTO 1.2, May MoT	15
	ΰZ	JZ KA 1.3, Silver, coloured bumpers, full Mo1	J

CARDIFF ROAD, BARRY CF32 29W • Open 7 Days 01446 748384 (available day/night)

www.usedcarsbarry.co.uk

bryanthomas71@hotmail.com

8





HERE IS JUST A SMALL SELECTION OF OUR HUGE STOCK, FROM OVER 140 USED CARS, 4X4s & MPVs









CHECKED FULLY EQUIPPED

WORKSHOPS

ALL CARS HPI







07 VW Passat 2.0 TDi PD 140 Est, blue met, climate a/c, e/w, r/c/l, cheap tax group, great performance & economy ...£7,995



Trusted Automotive Technicians



04 Mitsubishi Shogun in met silver with full black leather, Warrier model, locally owned vehicle, service history . £10,995



05 Nissan 359Z in blue met, full black leather, awsome BOSE sound, 1 owner from new, full service history£9,995



53 Lexus RX300 3,0 SE 5-dr, blue met, full black leather, factory sat nav, reversing camera, climate, a/c, e/w, e/m, rcl £9,995





53 Honda CR-V in red met, SE Sport with great spec, locally owned vehicle, a credit to its former owner£4,995



54 VW Golf in silver met, top of the range GT TDi model, great spec, local 1 owner vehicle with VW service history . . .£5,495



W Land Rover Discovery, red met, GS TD5 7-seater, great spec, locally owned vehicle with great practicality £4,995



57 Mitsubishi Colt in met silver, rare diesel CZ2 model , just 1 owner from new, full Mitsubishi service history£4,995





06 Renault Clio Expression in pearl black met, great spec, locally owned with full and comprehensive service history . . .£3,995



03 Ford Fiesta in tonic blue met with luxury interior, Ghia model , just 1 local owner from new, full service history . . . £3,695



04 Skoda Fabia, met silver with cloth trim, Comfort model, 1 local owner from new, with service history £3,495



54 Ford Ka 1.3 Collection, silver met, cloth trim, cd player, e/w, e/m, pas, lots more, locally owned, full service history .£2,995





51 Ford Focus in red met, LX model with great spec, locally owned, fsh and group 4 ins, £155 a year road tax £2,795



05 Ford Ka in red, locally owned with low mileage, low tax and ins (group 2), fantastic value, ideal 1st car £2,495



T Mazda 323F GSi 1.8 Auto 5-dr, silver met, luxury cloth trim, a/c, alloys, cd, r/c/l, very rare automatic model £1,495

RAC WARRANTG AVAILABLE

> CAR BUYING SCHEME

FINANCE TO SU17 MOST!

BAD CREDIT CATERED FOR

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

OVER 140 USED CARS, 4x4s, MPVs.

0% DEPOS17 AVAILABLE

howemotors.co.uk

Powell Dyffryn Way | Barry | Vale of Glamorgan CF62 5QR VAT No. 615915045 Company Reg No. 4993212

v Broad Street Motors

Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AJ. Est.1979



07 KIA Sorento 2.5 CRDi XE Automatic 5-dr Station Wagon in quartz grey/purple with grey interior, air con, CD, roof rails, four wheel drive, service history, only 36,500 miles£12.995

bumpers, only 70,080 miles...



56 DODGE Caliber 2.0 TD SXT 5-dr Hatchback. In bright silver clearcoat with Pastel slate grey leather interior, air con, multi CD, cruise control, traction control system, only £6.995



57 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 16v Breeze 5-Dr MPV. In Black sapphire with charcoal interior, reversing sensors, CD, air con, privacy glass only 23,580 miles....



55 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110 Sport 5-dr hatchback in flamenco red with black Merlin interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, body coloured bumpers, only 50,600 miles....£4,995

07 with grey suede interior, climate control, memory heated electric seat, roof rails, only 41,750 miles £13.995

51 MERCEDES BENZ C-Class 2.0 C180 Sport Coupe in brilliant silver met with Ascot interior, dual zone climate control, cruise control, auto lights, cd, alloy wheels, only 70,647 miles......£4,995

59 VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 16v Turbo SRi (Nav) In lightning silver metallic with Vitesse interior, full colour navigation, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, phone prep, only 14,500 miles £13,995 09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite in graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles ... £13,495 57 MINI Cooper 1.6 (120) Chilli Pack 3-dr Hatchback. In pepper white with carbon black half leather interior, panoramic roof, air con, CD, rear parking sensors, service history, only 56,000 miles ... £9,995 07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDi DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback. In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 38,598 miles ... £11,995 07 VAUXHALL Tigra 1.41 16v sport 2-dr cabriolet in air blue with charcoal alpha interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, od, front fogs, only 48,730 miles ... £6,995 56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSi (170s) FT 5-dr in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracte interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,988 miles ... £9,995 56 HONDA Civic 1.81 "Vete Type-5 3-dr Hatchback. In albaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles ... £8,995 55 MAZDA MX-5 2.01 Sport 2-Dr Convertible In Winning blue with black leather interior, multi CD, air con, heated seats, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, only 36,900 miles ... £7,995 55 FENAULT Megane 2.0 VVT 136 Privilege 2-dr Coupe Cabriolet. In metallic gold with magnolia leather interior, knutry pack, climate control, multi CD, cruise control, panoramic roof, only 9,250 nils ... £6,995 55 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110 Sport 5-dr hatchback in flamenco red with black Merlin interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, body coloured bumpers, only 50,600 miles ... £4,995 54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDi (100ps) Sport 5-dr in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, only 93,790 miles ... 07 06 06 04 54 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive in arctic steel sliver with neutron meaning process. \$23,495 wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles. \$23,495 styles of the state of the styles K9,995
33 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-dr Convertible. In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles.

23,995
02 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8 T (225) 2-dr Convertible. In silver with grey leather interior, six CD changer, BOSE sound system, 17" alloy wheels, immobiliser only 70,620 miles.

29,995
W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-dr Saloon. In Strathcarn blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric surroof, air con, only 57,280 miles

23,995
G BMW 3 Series 320i 2.0 2-Door Convertible. In silver with black leather interior, headlamp cleaning 89 stem, M-Technic steering wheel, wood effect trim, electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels,

06 54 AUDI A3 1.6 Special Edition 3-dr Hatchback. In black with charcoal interior, CD, front fogs, climate control, alloy wheels, one owner only 60,300 miles. £6,995
54 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-dr Estate. In imperial blue with grey interior, a/con, cd, electric windows, body coloured bumpers, only 30,700 miles. £3,495
05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles. £5,995
54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback. In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles. £3,695
04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTI T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon. Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles. £5,995
51 MERCEDES Benz A-Class 1.4 A140 Avantguard 5-dr hatchback. In red with slate grey half leather/cloth interior, cd, ipod connection, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 47,790 miles. £2,995

chrome mirror caps, electric panoramic glass r oof, only 71,000 miles

iew our stock online Gwasanaeth Cymraeg Ar Gael

Finance available subject to status, UK residence, over 18 years of age. Written quotations available on request. Guarantees may be required.

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

visit our website www.nbsm.co.uk



04 Land Rover Freelander 2.0 TD4 'S' 5-dr Auto

02

54

57

04

۸7

07

80

56

06

06

57

07

05

05



£6,995

07 Mercedes C220 CDi
Avant Garde Estate Auto

In black, 72,000 miles,

diesel 4x4



In met silver, 65,000 miles, superb throughout. £12,995

57 Audi A4 2.0 TDi Convertible Auto



In met red with beige leather seats, one owner, fantastic value at £11,995





In birch metallic, 43,000 miles, 2 local owners £4,995

SPORT, PRESTIGE & 4X4

PORSCHE 911 Carrera 4S Tiptronic. Silver w/black leather, 65,000 miles, just serviced Porsche Cardiff . £23,995 PORSCHE Cayanne 'S' 4.5 V8 Manual. Dark met-green, black leather heated seats, sat-nav, 56,000 mls £16,995 VW EOS 2.0 FSi Sport. Silver with black leather , 44,000 miles, convertible . REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £13,995 MERCEDES C220 CDi Avante Garde Estate Auto. In met silver, 65,000 miles, superb throughout £12,995 JEEP Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD Ltd Auto in black with leather trim, 43.000 mile diesel 4x4......£12,895 AUDI A4 2.0 TDi Convertible Automatic. In met red with beige leather seats, one owner, fantastic value at ... £11,995 MAZDA MX5 2.0 Sports. In met blue with black leather heated seats, 12,000 miles, 1 owner. £11,995 MERCEDES CLK 240 Convertible Auto. In black with black leather trim, 66,000 miles, upgraded alloys £11,995 AUDI A4 2.5TDi Auto Convertible. In silver with black leather, 71,000 miles, sat nav etc £10,995 MERCEDES C220 CDi Avantgarde Automatic. In silver, 1 owner, fsh....... FANTASTIC VALUE AT £8,995 HONDA Civic Type R 3-dr. In black, 44,000 miles, local car with a/c, alloys. SUPERB VALUE AT £6.995 LAND ROVER Freelander 2.0 TD4 'S' 5-dr Automatic. In black, 72,000 mile diesel 4x4 £6.995 FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST. In silver, 39,000 miles with a/c, on offer at...... REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,495 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi. In met blue, 68,000 miles, 1 private owner, sports coupe at £5,995 MAZDA RX8 192PS. In black, 60,000 miles, stylish 4-dr coupe REDUCED BY £1000 TO £4,995 TOYOTA RAV 4 1.8 VVTi NV 3-dr. In birch met, 43,000 miles, 2 local owners......£4,995 MERCEDES C180 Elegance Auto. In met-silver birch, 63,000 miles REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995 LEXUS GS300 SE Navigator. Burgundy met, light grey leather, 75,000 miles FANTASTIC VALUE REDUCED TO£4,695 SUZUKI Jimney 02. Black/silver soft top, 51,000 miles REDUCED BY £300 TO £3,695

SMALL, ECONOMICAL AND FAMILY CARS

FORD Focus 1.6 Style 5-dr. In black, 19,000 miles with sports pack and a/c..... FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 5-dr (new shape) met blue, 500 miles only REDUCED BY £1000 TO £7,995 PEUGEOT 207 1.6TD Sport Estate. In silver, 58,000 miles, panoramic roof, low road tax diesel. RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVTi Dynamic. In met grey, 10,000 miles, 1 owner REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamic Auto In met-burgundy, superb example with only 25,000 miles £5,995 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTi 120 Club 7 seater. Black, economical people carrier REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 T-Spirit 5-Dr Automatic. In light met grey, 28,000 miles with A/C, alloys £5,995 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5-dr. In black, 34,000 miles with a/c, alloys, etc. £5,695 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SXi Estate Auto. In Met Blue, 9,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty £5,495 MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Elegance Automatic. In met blue with black leather, 37,000 miles...... SKODA Fabia Ambiente 16v 5-dr. In met gold, 25,000 miles, local car with a/c etc RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. Silver, 46,000 miles, 7 seater.... REDUCED BY £1000 TO £4,995 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life In silver, 40,000 miles with CD, A/C etc. £4,995 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Life 5-Dr Automatic. In met black, 53,000 miles, 2 owners NISSAN Note 1.4 SE. In electric blue, 46,000 miles, 2 owners, excellent throughout. RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique. In black metallic, 33,000 miles with panoramic roof etc. £4,995 FORD Focus 1.6LX 5-Dr. In met blue, 44,000 miles, ideal family hatch with a/c, cd £4,995 SMART Four Two 1.0 Passion Automatic (New Model). In silver with cd, a/c, alloys, £30 road tax. £4,695 SMART FourTwo 700 Passion Automatic Convertible. Silver with black leather, heated seats, a/c. £4,695 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi SE Estate 7-seater. In light met green, full panoramic roof, 70,000 miles..... £4,695 ALFA ROMEO 147 1.6 Lusso 3-dr. In met blue, 56,000 miles, a/c, alloys. . . . REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,495 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style 5-dr. In black, 20,000 miles, 2 owners with cd, etc £3,995 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 CDX 5-dr Auto in jade met, 39,000 miles, 2 owners £3,995 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVTT Expression. In met-red, 60,000 miles, 2 owners, only CITROEN C4 1.4 SXi 5-dr. In met-green, 58,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, alloys. REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,495 CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXi 3-Dr. In black, 39,000 miles with a/c, CD, alloys . . . REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995 MITSUBISHI Colt 1.2 C2i 3-dr. Light met-blue, 1 owner, CD, e/w, c/l REDUCED BY £1000 TO £2,995 DAEWOO Laceti 1.6 SX 5-dr. In silver, 55,000 miles, with a/c, cd. alloys £2,995 ROVER 75 1.8T Connoisseur Automatic. In met gold, 41,000 miles, fantastic value..... ROVER 75 2.0 V6 Connoisseur SE. In light gold met with full leather trim, 48,000 miles, 1 lady owner . . . ROVER 45 1.6 Club in silver, 36,000 mile example with heated seats, cd REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,695 RENAULT Clio Authentique. In black, 73,935 miles, c/l, e/w, c/d. £2,695 FORD Focus 2.0 Ghia 4-Dr. In met black, 75.000 miles, 1 owner example with A/C etc. £2.695

06 Ford Focus 1.6LX 5-dr



In met blue, 44,000 miles, ideal family hatch with a/c, cd £4,995

07 Renault Scenic 1.6 VVTi Dynamic



In met-grey, only 10,000 miles, 1 owner

REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995

57 Smart Four two



(New Model)
In silver with cd, a/c, alloys, £30 road tax £4,695

04 BMW X3 2.5 Sport



Met grey, 58,000 miles, with sat nav £9.995

Broad Street,
Barry
(Next to Barry train Station)

01446 722600





FINANCE PACKAGES TO SUIT ALL • 0% DEPOSIT FINANCE AVAILABLE • ALL CARS HPI CLEAR • PART EXCHANGE WELCOME • OPEN 7 DAYS CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

MULTI-PHOTOS AND FULL DESCRIPTION ON WEBSITE www.garywatsonmotorcompany.co.uk



nhire.co.uk

- House Removal Lutons with Tail Lifts
- Large Fleet of Cars (Focus, Fiesta Zafiras, Focus



(VW Tourans.

VW Shuttle, Mercedes Travel Liners, 7-9 Seats)

- 4-metre Merc Sprinters & Jumbos
- Small Vans (Connects, Combos, Partners)
- 9-seat Mini Buses
- Tippers
- VW Transporters
- Towbars fitted to most vehicles (inc cars) - Extra Charge
- Roof Racks Available
- CDW (Collision Damage

Waiver) from £10 per day Full European Use



hire@wickvanhire.co.uk







OPEN 7 DAYS

5 HOUR HIRE FROM £30.00

(100 miles max)

All hirers must possess valid credit/debit card

01656 660160

End of year success for Vale Karate group

Karate with three weekends full of

a year, due to the fire at medals, including his their base at Port Talbot's first title!

the venue. A strong Vale Karate squad entered and ing as a three-and-a-half year old in Vale Karate's silverware. Established squad members such as In Weston, Finnian Squad members such as In Weston, Finnian Squad both the 5-7

Of particular note was the newly established Against competitors under-10 boys team up to two years older, first title.

time Welsh champion, had earlier won both his individual Kata and mate Christopher Slack Kumite events, going home with three gold medals. time Welsh champion,

A week later on earlier won a bronze in value with the under-8 Kata, joining super-Mare was the team-mate Georgia the new junior black Athan and Shellie and venue when more than Hellerman, who won siloguous the Western Karate Union's winter invitational.

With many of Vale Karate members, Karate Karate's squad opting for whose previous years of after-school karate proj
A footnote to this suc-Primary in Penarth, cess story is that five of Nikita and Megan in St Nicholas. Nikita Denner, Megan on Vale Karate telephone on Vale Karate telephone Vale karate members, Copeland launched his or vobert@valekarate.com

THE year has ended a day off, medals were with a bang for Vale scarcer; nevertheless, once again Vale Karate's newer faces showed their potential.

Finnian O'Donovan, drama! Finnian O'Donovan, On November 21, The at only five years old, Welsh Bushi-Kai staged their first invitational dournament for more than a year, due to the fire at their breast Dent Telbest (c)

their base at Port Taibot s
Afan Lido last year.

Bridgend Recreation
Barry's Romilly Primary
and Leisure Centre was
the venue.

A transport Valo Vegeta

newer faces came to ing a stationary dummy, prominence. with judges determining with judges determining a winner

where nine-year-olds Finnian demonstrated his Will Hellerman, Owain skill by taking the gold Harrhy and Josh Dwyer medal. He failed by the joined Ewan to take their narrowest of margins to take another gold in the rst tute.

Ewan, already a fourEwan, already a fourMumite, again against
me Welsh champion, older children, settling
ad earlier won both his for silver, with team-

training culminated in the biggest test of many of their lives as the attempted to earn their black belts.

Twelve youngsters, all aged between 12 and 14 years, were attempting their junior black belts with two adults attempting their senior First Dan one attempting Second Dan.

Chief instructor and grading examiner Rob Copeland said: "All 15 candidates were fully aware and ready for the task ahead and applied themselves admirably with all passing with flying colours.

A footnote to this suc-

AROVE Dan grading RELOW:



ct in Septementauren was in Victoria ect in September 2006. Primary

BARRIVALE BRIDGE NEWS



Two members of the winning club championship teams, Jane Brook and Kay Dyer with the David Martyn Cup. The remainder of the team was Betty Lewis, Irene Thomas and Mike Close,

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are from November 30:

First, Denis Mottram and Noelle Bond 56.25 cent; second, Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews 55.21; third, Dave Thomas and Tom Kendrick 53.75.

Vivien Liles and Hilary Laurence won on handi-

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

155/1011 D Berry

16/3000 Ben

175/1011 H Baru

DIAGRIA Burn

TELESCRIPE But

HS-95900 Tend

HS/459ES Berry

MS/95/815 Bers

the 1 floy 2 floy 6

c30.m c55 c99

(32.17 (59 (115

c35:rc ob5 c120

Bot 1 Boy 2 Boy 6

c37.m c69 c130

436.55 468 4128

. BATTERIES . 4x4 TYRES . SHOCKS . BRAKES . DISCS . MOT'S . SERVICING EXHAUSTS • TYRES



CET READY FOR WINTER MAKIZ SURZ YOU CAN STOR GET YOUR TYRES (CHECKED)

CALL IN NOW FOR A FREE TYRE CHECK!

OR PHONE US FOR THE BEST PRICE AROUND! GOODYEAR 195/65/815 205/55VR16

ke bosal 288-755 Rede 1.25/95-99 69.95 15311 Never 25 1.1/1.4 99- 74.95 HT-005 P0-255 Progrest 306 1.4 80-64 74_05

BRAKE PADS

SLTS Care 1.8/1.210-00 ISLUTU ON 1.2/1.4/1.9 PH-04 33.85 PSL 12% Board 1.A/1.6 95-99 38.95

BATTERIES

FROM ONLY 3 YEAR WARRANTY (Example: UK 063)

Engle NCT 5 £

Engle NCT 5

STANDARD TYRES

Boy I Boy I Boy 6 Boy 1 Boy 2 Boy 6 123/707823 Aven 275 NS/VIEW Miliperose 8090 (48.7s cf.) c175 16/0000 Am 215 (\$8.0 (75 c)45 175/78TEH Bildgestose 9250 cf 2:15 cf 118 cf 225 \$5,00004 Assa 215 148 195 1880 PS/VSFH Billiproses 8290 (51.m (49 (185 DUNCTURE Annual Trees office of 9 of 50

PERFORMANCE TYRES

Changestone HS/VINITIA Biologostone 80000 vS flux vd 110 v205 15/6801 Bilgerton 8290 df f. s. d 20 d250 mulicians Milgratus 0000 v77.a 15/15815 Bilgertee 8250 :65.cr c125 c240 16,40015 Ave 210 (52:s) (100 (190

161/600014 Aven IVS 148/11 195 1980 HS/43HTH Som TVD (\$3.00 c102 c195

IEL/GRES Aven INS 157.m

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

NS/SIRES Boss 2ND 149.27 195 1580 1071) Bildycolone (8100 c/9.m cl49 c280 165,40005 Aven IVS (63.e) (120 (230 HI,43801 Ave 295 (\$4.0 (101 (195 201/19914 Bibliochem (8100) c76.cc c145 c275 201/19916 Aven 295 c65.cc c125 c290

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

Boy 1 Boy 2 Boy 4 205/2090% Bildgestone 80200 (306/a) (205 (390 201/199016 Bildgestone 89300 vB2:ss v155 v295 235,43987 Bildgerbase 88950 c[110as c210 c399

201/10%Th. Aven DVS (78.m. (149 (285 201/309016 Aven IVS (68.) (129 (245 25/474073. Aven 2V5 (50.no):175 (335) TEL-FETTER E Bridgerinne BESSS (140a: 1270 1530 | 751/47WES E Avec 7V5 (106a: 1590 1385

Boy I

Box 1 Box 2 Box 4

165/30W15 Feb 15,9345 fellowy #44.07 #82 #158 305/559855 Redend r58.m r110 r210

Sex 1 Sex 2 Sex 4 315/SWEIS New (52.s) (99 (190 305/558936 New c54.00 c105 c199 215/59917 Nove 460.45 4110 4210 215/40WEIB Fellowy c54.on c102 c199



BARRY

Barry CF63 2QW.

01446 733167



ON PRODUCTION OF THIS ADVERT

from only

WE ARE OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8.00am - 5.30pm, SATURDAYS 8.00am - 4.00pm, ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED. THE PRICE WE QUOTE IS PRICE YOU PAY - ALL OUR PRICES INCLUDE VALVE, BALANCE, FITTING, VAT & CASING DISPOSAL!









GEM sport

Bridgend Athletic stutter...

before being pulled down on the 22m line.

Tom Penry-Ellis, were there to win the ball

had their tails up now and Aled Thomas hoisted

Report by MARK DAVIES

Photographs by GLENNSPORTS

back

THE big freeze gave way just in enough time to allow this round **SWALEC Cup tie to** go ahead.

Although the surface was soft, underneath it was still frozen and this made for a slippery sur-face and a greasy ball that would bring their own problems for players from both teams.
Saturday's visitors,

Gilfach Goch, are currently riding high in Division One East and the Athletic were expecting a stern test. This is not the cup of old and there was no buzz of sive scrum, led by Matthew Norman and there was no buzz of Simon Mustoe, over-anticipation among the turned the visitors' ball spectators as the teams took the field.

managed to get on top, with captain Sean Williams at his disrup-tive best in the close exchanges and they soon

was pushed wide when he lost his footing as he made contact. Another longer range effort fell just short a few moments

attempt after an aggres-sive scrum, led by

After an initial settling The restart allowed Lloyd Pemberton to race in period, the Athletic Gilfach a foothold in over for a good quality try which Lewis was



The Athletic back row attack as one.

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC GILFACH GOCH

Athletic territory but long relieving ki-pushed them bac Jonathon Stoker took clean lineout ball which won a penalty 35m out. Steve Lewis's kick allowed Rob Coles the chance to cut through



His supporting back row, in the shape of Williams, Dan Apsee and strong attacking position.
There followed a perilater.

The fly-half made no there to win the ball od of sustained pressure mistake with his third which Mustoe moved on by the Athletic which, to attempt after an aggresto centre James Olds, their credit, Gilfach there is the which Mustoe moved on by the to centre James Olds, their credit, Gilfact whose well-timed pass strove mightily to resist found full back Craig and, despite losing full-back Jones to a yellow they managed to found full back Craig and, ucspire rosing ran-baker steaming up in back Jones to a yellow support. The defence card, they managed to were at sixes ands sevens and he dummied to wing Another strong scrum,

Another strong scrum, with Wayne Fooks pressurising his opponent, allowed Thomas and Lewis to send the ball unable to convert. Lewis
The Green and Golds flying flying out to wing Lyndsey McCausland, who outstripped the high kick which defence for a fine try that fach full-back Ian Lewis converted.

Gilfach full-back Ian Lewis converted.

Davies took under presssure, but he was powerless to prevent the
strong runs by
turnover. Lewis rolled a

Pensout by

Pensout by pressure and, following a high tackle, Lewis sent over his second penalty to give his team a healthy

ing out, Gilfach came back into the game as Cardiff squad member, No 8 Andrew Williams,

ran powerfully and his teammates swarmed at the Athletic line. Stout defence kept them out and a knock-on allowed Athletic to finish the half as comfortable leaders.

At the start of the sec ond half, the home team were in the driving seat and a comfortable victory looked on the cards ry looked on the cards. Unfortunately, this must have occurred to the players as well. There was not the same clear headed play as we had seen in the first half and the game descended into a war of attrition with both teams battering away at each other and

mistakes aplenty.

The worsening condition of the pitch did not help matters and this, together with the fading light, made viewing dif-ficult for the fans as they struggled to identify

struggled to identify team members. Gilfach appeared to adapt to the close-quarter work much better and they were ably led by captain and centre Nathan Walters, who was always willing to take the ball forward. Young Williams took three of four defenders to pull him down at the end of

some strong bursts.

Home centre James Olds was sent to the sinbin for handling in the ruck and the Athletic were down to 14. Eventually the relentless pressure told, and visiting prop Michael Hughes was driven over for a try converted by Ian Jones. Into the last 10 min

utes and just as the Athletic were restored to 15, Gilfach's Ricky Prydie lashed out with his fist. Nevertheless, the men in blue continued to pressure the Athletic line and once again Hughes crashed over, but this time Jones sent his con version wide.

There were only min-utes left and Gilfach tried desperately to fashion the winning score but time ran out and the Athletic made it into the next round from a game they should have won comfortably.

OFFICIALS! Send your sports news to us - email gemeditorial@

tindlenews.co.uk

Mules exit Plate against powerful Heol-y-Cyw outfit

son's heroics in the SWALEC Plate. Kenfig Hill were deservedly knocked out in their first Cup game of the season in an uninspiring game Heol-yagainst

The game was won on the floor by the outstanding Cyw back row. Heol-y-Cyw led 8-0 at half-time thanks to a try by Zack Driscoll, verted by outside-half Gareth Howe, who added a later penalty. Kevin Worgan then added a try in the second

half, converted by

Kenfig Hill finished with a flourish when full-back Raymond Evans crossed the line and converted his own try. The final score was Kenfig Hill 7, Heol-y-Cyw 15. For Kenfig Hill, cen-

tre Shaun Burnell again had a good defensive game and Steve Gillard performed well in the back row. Owen Davies made a promising first team debut in the centre

GOOD DAY'S WORK FOR **SECONDS**

THE Mules extended the season's unbeaten run with a fine victory over local rivals Tondu in the Enoch Lewis

Cup at Pandy Park. From the open From the opening minutes, the Mules pack dominated the Tondu eight in the loose, with powerful running from No 8 Tom Butcher, prop Steve Smith and flanker Matthew Bater. From this early pressure, cen-Gareth Sullivan stormed Tondu defence to open

the scoring.
Further close-range tries followed from Steve Smith and Chris Bruno, all converted by classy fly-half Nicky Giles, who also added two penalties to leave the Mules dominant at half-time with a lead of 27 unanswered points.

The second half was a much closer affair, with Tondu looking to take the game to Kenfig at all times. However, the Mules withstood this

CALLING CLUB



Raymond Evans on his way to the try line. PICTURES BY PETER GILLING

pressure and finished the game strongly with two further tries by Richard Underhill and Matthew Bater, who by this time was playing in the cen-

In fact, the Mules finished the game with seven front row foron the field, including youth team hooker Chris Leyshon, who played the whole game on the wing.

The final score was Tondu 5, Kenfig Hill 42.

The man of the match award was given to cen-tre Mark Fitzgerald tre Mark Fitzgerald, who finished off a fine all-round performance with an unselfish try-scoring pass to Matthew Bater as he was crossing the line.

Next week, it's back to the league and it's back to Tondu!

GO'S

Porthcawl under-16s have too much firepower for Fairwater

Rest Porthcawl 16s hosted a strong Fairwater side who were in confident mood, having with one player to beat, three defenders to score nately Lloyd Stanford

With all their Blues South players available to them, they were going to be tough opposition and just what the young Seaweeds needed before their first Ospreys Cup

Porthcawl started strongly, with the forwards ripping into the Fairwater eight and after rormcawl defensustained pressure, an offence at the ruck gave a penalty to Porthcawl. This was kicked to the comer and the resultant move flummow. line-out saw a lovely move create a great try for Jack Taylor.

their tails up and powerful forward play provided the Seaweeds with A period of Fairwater good ball to run at every

Bay, to be dislodged in a tack- Seaweeds under- le over the line.
Shortly after,

recently beaten a he decided to just go in the corner. This was full-strength through him – and bumped the unfortunate defender to the ground to 24-0.

With all their Blues score his first try of the season. This was season. This was superbly converted by Huw Mitchell.

Although two tries down, Fairwater were still in the game and tried to run the ball with their strong backs, but handling errors and superb Porthcawl defence limit-

From 30 metres out, move flummoxed the Fairwater defence and an on-form Thomas nt over went Porthcawl now had unopposed – great to see eir tails up and power- all the hard work on the

possession was soaked injured player and proup by Porthcawl and the duced a fine performance ahead. Thank you to opportunity.

A superb line break by away side were strugdebutant Scott Govan gling to get out of their allowed Tom Bluck to own half and create anyone in only for the ball thing. The young the structure of the

Porthcawl used the second half to rotate their strong squad and were caught on the hop with two superb tries by Fairwater's powerful winger.

However, the young Seaweeds regrouped and started to get to the same intensity as the first half. After a clearance kick by Fairwater missed touch, Porthcawl had a scrum the ball was caught in and a fantastic backs midfield by Scott Govan, who made ground and passed to Zav, who raced in to score his second try of the game. This was again converted by Huw

> Tom Bluck came back on the field to replace an this game and are lookwith great tackling and topping it off with a well-

gained heads had now dropped turnover ball and quickly and the game began to some passed the ball out to fizzle out. Ben Smith wasn't able to take the pass that would have seen him go over.

Further pressure caused the Fairwater backs to try and clear their line. Unfortunately for them, the ball was kicked to Lloyd Stanford who was able to place the ball down unopposed. was converted by Scott Govan. Final score

Coach Ian Evans said: 'This was a good team performance against a side that were in confident mood. Having not played for weeks due to the weather, it was great to see the boys playing with a smile on their

faces.
"They clearly enjoyed ahead. Thank you to Fairwater RFC who stepped in at short notice to play the match."

Family fun... Bridgend Complex

Induction or £15 PER **LESSON** £42.50 for 3 £80.00 for 6 Why not Book a course?

- Nine-Hole Golf Course
- Pay & Play
 All-weather flood light
 driving range
- All equipment available for hire
- **Professional Tuition** Gift Vouchers . . .

EXCELLENT VALUE kdays: 9 holes £6.00, 18 holes £9.00 Weekends and bank holida Tel: 01656 647926

